FBIS DAILY REPORT
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ALFONSIN TALKS WITH REAGAN ON FOREIGN DEBT

PY061545 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2341 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Apr (TELAM) -- Argentine President Raul Alfonsin today confirmed to U.S. President Ronald Reagan that Argentina will fulfill its foreign commitments, as long as the renegotiation of the foreign debt does not compromise the basic policies of economic expansion and the improvement of the standard of living of our people. This information was revealed by presidential spokesman Jose Ignacio Lopez, who disclosed that Reagan phoned Alfonsin at Government House and that the conversation between the two presidents lasted 8 minutes.

Lopez said that Reagan conveyed congratulations and expressed satisfaction over the agreement reached last week at the initiative of Mexico and the active participation of the Governments of Venezuela, Colombia, and Brazil, in addition to the United States and a group of banks. Lopez added that Reagan referred to the participation of the U.S. Government as a contribution toward strengthening democracy.

Lopez said that Alfonsin expressed gratitude for the cooperation given by the U.S. Government, pointing out that all the countries which took part in this agreement realized that cooperation and dialogue are methods we must use as much as possible to solve our problems. Lopez also said that Alfonsin expressed his conviction that we must start a new dialogue together, not Latin America facing the United States, but Latin America together with the United States. On this subject, the presidential spokesman said that President Alfonsin referred to the upcoming trip of Foreign Minister Dante Caputo to the United States, saying that this is precisely one of the topics he had particularly asked Caputo to discuss with the U.S. secretary of state.

Lopez said that Alfonsin also told Reagan that the well-being of the Latin American people and the security and prestige of the United States depend on the strength of pluralist democracies in the region. Alfonsin recognized that there are many obstacles to strengthening democracy and that the foreign debt is one of the most important. The foreign debt compromises economic development, and this development is essential for a successful democracy.

Alfonsin confirmed the Argentine Government's decision to fulfill all its commitments, and that in the next few months important steps will be taken to strengthen democrary, as long as the negotiations of the foreign debt do not compromise the basic policies of economic expansion and the improvement of the standard of living of our people. Lopez said that the dialogue took place around noon and that it was the first telephone conversation between Alfonsin and Reagan.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON NEED FOR DIALOGUE WITH U.S.

PY072155 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1004 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 Apr (DYN) -- Foreign Minister Dante Caputo has advocated the establishment of a Latin American dialogue, not confronting the United States but together with it, based on "democracy, economic development, and the security of the hemisphere."

The foreign minister, who left last night for the United States, stressed the support granted by the U.S. Administration to recent negotiations with international banks on the Argentine foreign debt. He also denied that Washington's participation may imply any kind of conditions. Caputo also urged the U.S. Government to understand the democratic needs of the countries of the region, expressed in "various forms," and warned political leaders of the area not to give in to "an ideological fanaticism" placing their peoples "on the brink of a holocaust."

Referring to the reasons for his trip to the United States, Caputo stated that the trip "is in keeping with many expectations" and that it is linked to successive steps taken during the past few months to begin "a profound, mature, serious, and stable dialogue" between Washington and Buenos Aires. "This is a very important possibility," he said, "to begin a dialogue with the U.S. Government." He also expressed hope for increasing bilateral contacts.

The foreign minister termed "very positive" the U.S. government's support at the negotiations for the payment of the foreign debt interest. He stated: "It confirms the idea that the United States understands the need to strengthen economic development processes as a necessary condition to establishing democracy." Caputo denied that the U.S. support may imply any type of conditions, and referred to the telephone call between Presidents Raul Alfonsin and Ronald Reagan. This position shows the U.S. desire to participate with all Latin American countries in the search for solutions to the foreign debt and other problems," he stated. He said that what happened last week "shows the capacity of dialogue among countries of the region, not against, but with the United States."

He denied that the United States had reportedly tried to "rescue the international banks" through its support to the Argentine negotiations, stating: "This support has been concrete, a solidaristic position to solve an Argentine problem."

Asked how Latin American dialogue with Washington can take place when an invasion of Nicaragua by the U.S. is imminent, the foreign minister stated that "this dialogue must be based on three elements: the problem of democracy, the problem of economic development, and the problem of the security of the hemisphere." He stressed that dialogue will help overcome disagreements, and expressed hope in the success of the Contadora Group in its negotiations for peace in Central America. Caputo said he is for "a negotiated solution" to the regional conflicts, based "on the reason and the good will of all parties."

The negotiations with Chile over the Beagle border conflict were also discussed by the foreign minister. He said: "We are living through an important moment." Regarding prospects for an agreement with the neighboring country, Caputo expressed confidence in a solution of the conflict, "thanks to the will of the intervening parties."

FOREIGN MINISTRY TELEX ON CAPUTO TRIP LEAKED

PY070010 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 3 Apr 84 pp 1, 4

[J. Iglesias Rouco commentary: "Races"]

[Text] Even though the message Mr Alfonsin delivered last Sunday did nothing but reveal the deceitful mask that the government used, as we predicted it would before the speech, to disguise its agreement over the payment of overdue foreign debt interests with the United States and the IMF, we believe that on this occasion the Alfonsin-led faction, so to the speak, outdid itself.

In effect, the president tried to cover, with the Latin American "solidarity" mask, the loss of our dignity and perhaps of some millions of dollars, because now we may even have to pay interest on the same amount of money to two groups of lenders almost simultaneously; that is, to the Latin American countries on the one hand, and to the United States on the other. But, in his message the president also resorted to the basic elements of the psychological action or propaganda with which his party is now attempting to manage the country. For example, from the standpoint of the arguments he put forward, any attack against or criticism of the government turns out to be an action against the "tranquillity of the people" or the "future of the nation." Mr Alfonsin also said that within the context of the "consistent, rational, and predictable" -- it is certainly predicatable -- foreign policy that according to him we have adopted, and after the above deal on overdue interests, any "endangered Latin American democracy" will be able to ask for the "solidaristic support of its peers." We ask the president: Which "endangered" democracy? The Nicaraguan democracy, perhaps?

In other words, it is not necessary to reflect too much on his appeals for "greatness" and "faith" to recognize the totalitarian approach of his speech, which after all did nothing but depict a single enemy of Argentina: economic liberalism. His appeals for "greatness" and "faith" and the attempt to put "democracy" and government on the same level remind us of other comparisons that the military formulated for the "process," the "fatherland," and the "Armed Forces." As the old Spaniards put it, that was precisely the subliminal message of the whole speech. In the Peron style of 1945, Mr Alfonsin is in search of an appropriate enemy (by the way, this is a difficult task in a country in which almost everybody wants to be friendly to those who are in power). At last, Alfonsin seems to have found an enemy. His discovery may only lead to the conclusion that a man is known by the enemies he has.

In sum, we believe that the government is unfortunately wasting time. According to our sources, the agreement with the United States and the "sister" republics involves an extremely tight financial and economic adjustment program, the implementation of which will demand the best rhetorical abilities and all kinds of dialectical games from the president. The agreement will also involve several initiatives, or lack of intitiatives, in the foreign policy domain, including our policy in Central America, all of which will undoubtedly contradict many of the recent statements by Mr Caputo. If after the elections 3 months ago Mr Grinspun had submitted a consistent refinancing plan to the IMF instead of neglecting the "accounting problems" of banks (as if they were problems affecting Mr Rockefeller and not millions of U.S. and European stockholders), and if Mr Caputo had discussed with his "Yankees" the continent's political and strategic issues, issues in which whether we like it or not those "Yankees" have much to say -- as they have much to say in connection with our foreign debt -- instead of running against Mexico in the competition for the post of "tenth" commander of Sandinist Nicaragua, Argentina would not have been affected by: 1) the expensive Brazilian, Mexican, Venezuelan, and Colombian "support"; 2) some additional impositions by the IMF; 3) the "revitalization" of the Peronist union leadership that supports the labor-military pact; 4) a couple of esoteric speeches that the president was forced to deliver (against his own will, we hope); 5) the distrust of Washington and its NATO allies; 6) the favorable conditions for small extremist groups and for the internal contradictions of the Aflonsin-led faction; and 7) a general confusion and growing alarm of millions of Argentines. In addition, the rigid economic restrictions that the government will have to impose now would have been enacted when the Alfonsin faction enjoyed a broader consensus, when its opponents were still scattered, and when they would not even dream, as they cannot dream now, of the possibility of a "national opposition front."

But, as we said, the government has thus far wasted its time and ours, and now it feels compelled to engage in marathon races, like the one to be run by Mr Caputo in the United States between next Saturday and Friday, 13 April (a certainly ill-omened day). We have a "secret" telex from the Argentine Embassy in Washington in our hands. It bears the number 888/889/890 and it arrived here on 31 March at 1250; its general reception number is 22915/919/920. The telex gives a detailed account of the agenda arranged by Mr Garcia del Solar for that trip. The agenda includes some 30 talks, cocktail receptions, dinners, speeches, and trips. Actually, the agenda seems an attempt against Mr Caputo, rather than a program of political activities. Let us take a look at some of the items of this program.

The foreign minister is scheduled to have breakfast with Mr Kissinger at 0830 on Tuesday, 10 April, at the United Nations Plaza Hotel, located in front of the UN building. However, the agenda foresees: 1715: arrival of His Excellency the Foreign Minister at the Council of Foreign Relations Headquarters located at the corner of 58 East and 69th Streets, accompanied by at most three persons (this is a very strict rule for the Council). The persons who will be present at the hall, "the telex goes on to say, "are exclusively from the list of Council members who have accepted the invitation. The list is included on page 16 of the memo sent through CODIP [expansion unknown] to His Excellency the Foreign Minister. Approximately 100 persons are expected to attend. All statements will be "off-the-record" [in English]; 1730: Dr Kissinger (who will not be able to attend the dinner because of a previously arranged appointment) introduces His Excellency the Foreign Minister. Speech by the foreign minister (15 to 20 minutes at most). Questions and answers up to 1830."

However, the time foreseen (2 hours) for the foreign minister's audience with Msgr Pio Laghi at 1830 on Thursday, 12 April, is longer than the time to be devoted to the audience with Kissinger (as is known, the church is not on such a tight schedule as the professor). But only on Friday, 13 April, if he is still alive, will the minister reach the gist of the matter. The telex reads: "1100: Working meeting at the Department of State. The U.S. side has reported that it will be represented by 5 to 10 officials. They have asked that the Central American situation be discussed in the talks. They have also suggested the discussion of financial issues and bilateral matters."

A word to the wise is sufficient: His Excellency will not be able to talk about the debt without talking about Central America, and, as far as we know, without discussing the thorny Argentine nuclear development issue. As if this were not enough, in addition to his agenda, His Excellency will have to find time for the audiences requested by Mr Sol Linowitz, one of the presidents of the "American Dialogue," and by Mr Gerard Craft, president of the B'Nai Brith International, and other leaders of that important Jewish organization. Mr Garcia del Solar has asked for "instructions" in connection with these requests. And since the Argentine ambassador believes that His Excellency will still have breath, he adds in his telex: "We are trying to arrange an audience between His Excellency, Presidential Security Adviser Robert McFarlane, and Professor Carlos Diaz Alejandro. "Finally, it is interesting to note, the "secret" telex adds, "that simultaneously with the visit to be paid by His Exceelency, a seminar on "Argentina and U.S.-Argentine relations' will be held at the School of Advanced International Studies of John Hopkins University on 11 and 12 April. The seminar will be attended by Senators Fernando de la Rua and Ruben Rabanal, Cordoba UCR [Radical Civic Union] Committee President Alfredo Orgaz, and former Foreign Ministers Hipolito J. Paz and Juan Carlos Puig."

The presence of De la Rua and Rabanal, and perhaps also that of Paz, Orgaz, and Puig, is evidently open sabotage against His Excellency. Fortunately, and surely for the purpose of compensating for all of His Excellency's tribulations, the ambassador reserved -- the telex reports -- the "upper section of the Argentine Airlines Boeing."

MESSAGE ON IMF TALKS LEAKED; GOVERNMENT REACTS

Rouco Releases Text

PY061942 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 5 Apr 84 Second Section pp 1, 2

[Column by J. Iglesias Rouco: "The Secret Memo on the IMF Agreement"]

[Text] I cannot begin this article without expressing thanks to Mr Caputo for his excellent cooperation with this column. I will explain: We have enough reasons to think that His Excellency -- as our Ambassador in Washington would say -- has ordered his subordinates in San Martin Palace to send us copies of all the secret telexes [as published] received there, without exception. We also suspect that many pieces of information we receive live, without telex copies, come from the most restricted corner of the minister's office, from the floor in the building on Esmeralda Street where His Excellency meets with his trustworthy staff, whenever the pieces of information do not come from the mouth of His Excellency who, to pass on to us his secret messages over the phone without revealing himself by his voice -- maybe he would not like Mr Rodriguez of the SIDE [State Intelligence Secretariat] to recognize him -- Perhaps puts on the mouthpiece of the phone one of the Sandinist red bandannas which Mrs Kelly may have brought for him from Nicaragua in recent days. These are suppositions, as we said, but they have solid bases. We have always been aware of the high regard in which His Excellency holds the independent press, especially the journalist who writes this column. We have always known of his determination to serve this press and of his respect for the public's right to be well informed. But in all truth, we never imagined that his democratic conviction would go to this length. Let this be an example for those who dare accuse His Excellency of being a little leftist.

As can be remembered, on 3 April we published part of the secret telex sent from Washington by Ambassador Garcia del Solar containing Mr Caputo's agenda for his visit to the United States beginning 6 April. Shortly thereafter, at 1300 on the dot on 31 March, the Argentine Embassy in Washington dispatched telex number 895, classified as "very urgent" and "for the exclusive information of the foreign minister." The text of this second telex is of course much more interesting than that of the earlier telex. As far as we know, the message arrived here at 1450 on 31 March (probably because the coding took the time that care demands), and was given "general reception number 22946." Most certainly, only two copies were made of this telex: one for filing and the other for the foreign minister and President Alfonsin (perhaps for Mr Grinspun also). This is how important it was. As the first paragraph of the telex explains, telex 895 reproduces verbatim the "Progress Report" signed on 30 March at 2355 by Mr Raul Prebisch and the IMF director.

Although our English is perhaps not as good as that of the foreign minister (and even less our French), we have allowed ourselves to make this modest translation of telex 895 which, as is usually said, has nothing to be discarded.

Here is the text of the telex:

"In recent days constructive talks have been held between J. de Larosiera, director of the IMF, and Dr Raul Prebisch, personal envoy of President Alfonsin, about the recent economic policy in Argentina and the main elements for a stabilization program.

"1. A decisive reduction in inflation was considered of utmost importance, and it was agreed that a key component in the anti-inflationary effort would be a drastic reduction in the fiscal deficit. The attainment of these objectives would create conditions conducive to an economic recovery with sustained growth in production and employment through capital formation and improved economic efficiency.

"2. It was agreed that the objectives of the balance of payments in 1984 and 1985 must reflect both the limitation in foreign financing and the need for improving Argentina's international credibility. It was also agreed that the policies adopted to pursue those objectives would be conducive to economic growth and to attainment of a viable balance of payments over the medium-term, considering the obligations Argentina has for servicing its foreign debt. In this context, the foreign exchange policy will be formulated to stimulate exports and promote efficient import substitution, thus facilitating both economic growth and balance-of-payments readjustment.

"3. In designing this fiscal plan, the inflation problem, the proper use of foreign financing, and the need to provide adequate resources for the private sector will be taken into account. It was agreed that in outlining the fiscal policy, subsidized interest rates and other Central Bank fiscal operations will be covered. Dr Prebisch said that the objective of the authorities is to reduce the fiscal deficit from 18 percent of the gross domestic product in the fourth quarter of 1983 to 6 percent in the first quarter of 1985. It was also agreed that more investigation will be needed to determine the size of the fiscal deficit that can be financed in the context of a monetary program compatible with the desired reduction in inflation and the objectives of the balance of payments.

"4. It was considered essential that domestic interest rates be positive in real terms to stimulate appropriate internal savings and to strengthen the capital account of the balance of payments. It is expected that the deceleration of inflation and the reduction of the fiscal deficit will be followed by a decline in interest rates.

"5. Mr De Larosiere expressed his concern to Dr Prebisch that decisions implemented recently, as well as those that will be implemented in April, in the areas of salaries, price controls, exchange policies, and interest rates, are beginning to accelerate inflation and to increasingly distort the price system.

"6. Dr Prebisch informed Mr De Larosiere that, in light of recent experience, the government will readjust the policy in those areas to be consistent with its economic objectives regarding inflation, economic growth, and balance of payments; and it will make an announcement that the salary policy will be based on future inflation, not retroactively readjusted to compensate for past inflation.

"7. Discussions will continue to determine specific measures that will be necessary to formulate an appropriate and comprehensive stabilization program and to provide the basis for a letter of intent."

This is the "Progress Report" signed by Mr Prebisch.

At the end of the secret telex, Mr Garcia del Solar notes: "Original text was previously sent by Dr Prebisch to the Central Bank. New paragraphs 5 and 6 were discussed Dr Prebisch with Economy Minister Grinspun over the phone. I ask that the 'Progress Report' text be sent at once to the economy minister."

Note that the ambassador does not address the big man [Tula] of our economy in the same solemn form he addresses His Excellency. Note also the curious behavior of Mr Prebisch who before informing Mr Grinspun, informed the Central Bank, although he saw himself under the obligation to previously "consult" with Mr Grinspun on the timely observations made by Mr De Larosiere and the government's promises.

Well, the slippery content, let's call it, of this document, which is not yet known by many congressmen and ministers, will undoubtedly deserve an ample and thorough national debate. The same kind of debate will be accorded to the agreement on overdue interest on the foreign debt whenever His Excellency should feel like sending it to the writer of this column.

According to our sources, His Excellency will not send it for the time being, because he now has to prepare his grand appearances in New York and Washington. Moreover, he is busy with the investigation he ordered into the publication in this column of the previous secret telex from Mr Garcia del Solar. Still, according to our sources, His Excellency may be considering the possibility of taking us to court over that publication, as happened almost 3 years ago with the prosecuting foreign minister of General Viola, Mr Camilion, for whom our gratitude has not diminished with the passage of time. Apparently, at least one of Caputo's advisers, Mr Albino Gomez, the current press secretary at the San Martin Palace and the probable head of the minister's cabinet, is one of the most enthusiastic supporters of the court action against our modest self. Nevertheless, His Excellency doubts, with good reason. On one hand, he recalls very well his recent declaration regarding a similar case (and similar legal antecedents) indicating that functionaries, not journalists, are responsible for such leaks. On the other hand, he knows that these secret memos (known as canaries in the Foreign Ministry because they are written on yellow paper) came out of his own office, or perhaps, as we have said before, from the pocket of his democratic second self, or even from his plain Caputo's self. How can he condemn one he keeps secretly informed, one who is applauded (so secretly that not even His Excellency knows)?

Furthermore, Mr Caputo possibly is also wary of the counsel of his young advisers because he knows how busy they are. For instance, Mr Albino Perez, at one time the author of a moving poem to "Che" Guevara (at least so other Foreign Ministry secret memos say), may have just taken up, in addition to his official position, other somewhat "private" positions — we do not know whether he is still taking up more positions -- such as advisor to OAS, adviser to a private bank, and even ministerial "speech writer" (he may have written Mr Aguirre Lanari's unforgettable speech about Argentina and the Third World), in addition to his small incursions into journalism and radio. It is only logical that the suggestion of such busy persons may on occasions be too rash and end up jeopardizing a minister's future.

Finally, Mr Caputo may have on hand other questions which keep him from listening to the whisperings of that energetic diplomat (Mr Vignes may have had the same kind of questions and for that reason fired Mr Albino Gomez from the Foreign Ministry 10 years ago). We are of course referring the Beagle negotiations in Rome where they suffered a sudden paralysis in recent days, and also to the reorganization which His Excellency wants to impose in the San Martin Palace. On the mysterious floor in the building on Esmeralda Street, His Excellency has been mulling that reorganization with his "staff." The Chilean emissaries do not give him pause either, nor do the "secret memos" which Ambassador Garcia del Solar keeps piling on the minister's desk (and on our desk).

In a few more hours, Caputo will have to submit himself to examinations by Mr Kissinger and Mr Shultz, after having passed a preliminary examination -- very successfully -- with Mr Ortiz [U.S. ambassador to Argentina], his great friend whom he sees frequently. As far as we know, Caputo has learned quite well the examination topics on the foreign debt and the Malvinas, but he has only memorized the topic on Central America. In the end, what more can we ask of him?

Government 'Annoyed' by Leak

PY061915 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1028 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Apr (DYN) -- High government officials are noticeably annoyed by a press transcription of a coded document that was sent to the Argentine Foreign Ministry by the Argentine Embassy in Washington, because it is now believed that, with this transcription, practically all secret codes used by the Argentine Foreign Ministry for diplomatic communications in the last few months are now in the open.

Sources close to government security said that the publication of the entire coded cable, which was received in Buenos Aires on 21 March, including its serial number as well as the time the cable was issued and received, allows any nation which copied this message of the Foreign Ministry to decipher the contents of all messages coming and going to the Foreign Ministry in recent months.

As an example, the sources said that the publication of the cable means that, in practice, "Chile already knows the Argentine code, hence the contents of all instructions and replies issued lately between the Foreign Ministry and the Argentine representatives in Rome regarding the Beagle conflict."

It has been learned that this serious situation was discussed for over an hour today during an unscheduled meeting between President Raul Alfonsin, Foreign Minister Dante Caputo, and the officials responsible for the main state security organizations. The same sources indicated that during the meeting a decision was made to immediately change the secret codes of the Argentine Foreign Ministry and to carry out a thorough investigation aimed at determining the leak which allowed the newspaper LA PRENSA to publish cable 895 of 31 March sent from Washington at 1300 and received in Buenos Aires at 1450 under the heading of "very urgent" and "for the exclusive use of the foreign minister."

The text in question consists of the complete transcription of the "Progress Report" [in English] signed in Washington by presidential adviser Raul Prebisch and IMF Director Jacques de Larosiere, a report which was the basis for the agreement that was achieved with the United States, Brazil, Venezuela, Colombia, and Mexico to pay the overdue interest of the Argentine foreign debt.

Regarding the short-term negative impact that the disclosure of Argentine secret codes may have on the negotiations with Chile, a Foreign Ministry source noted that this was not very serious, adding that Francisco Delpech, under secretary for southern border affairs, left today for Rome carrying instructions that were personally issued to him by Foreign Minister Dante Caputo.

However, the same source declined to comment on the present situation at the Foreign Ministry following the disclosure of the coded cable, only saying that the proper measures have already been implemented.

Politician: Possible Espionage

PY062020 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1516 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 6 Apr (TELAM) -- Juan Carlos Pugliese, president of the Chamber of Deputies, today said that the leak of a Foreign Ministry secret document could have been an act of espionage. He noted, however, that the material involved had already been disclosed in earlier speeches by the economy minister. Pugliese made this statement at Government House at the end of a meeting with President Raul Alfonsin when asked by newsmen about the publication of a secret report delivered by presidential adviser Raul Prebisch to the IMF director.

Charges To Be Filed

PY070055 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2155 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Apr (NA) -- A reliable source has told NA that the Argentine Government, through the Education and Justice Ministry, will soon bring journalist Jesus Iglesias Rouco before a federal court on charges of having endangered state security in an article published yesterday by the Buenos Aires newspaper LA PRENSA. The ministry will argue before the court that Iglesias Rouco's article "was designed to endanger state security." Important coded diplomatic documents are prepared in three copies, the source said. Two officials keep one copy each in a safe from which these copies can only be removed with their signatures. The third copy goes to a drawer of the foreign minister's desk, which is also locked.

According to the report obtained by NA, the foreign minister himself proposed that legal actions be taken against Iglesias Rouco. The case yesterday prompted meetings at the highest government level and it was finally agreed that Iglesias Rouco's action "poses a grave threat to national security" and that, "therefore, it should not go unpunished." In his article, Iglesias Rouco disclosed a coded document sent by the Argentine Embassy in Washington to the Foreign Ministry. The coded document deals with negotiations on interest on the Argentine foreign debt and related issues. The article disclosed the secret codes the Foreign Ministry has been using during the past few months to transmit all of its diplomatic communications. Rouco's article cites the document, its internal number, and the times at which it was both sent and received.

The Argentine Government is concerned because the article has compromised all Argentine diplomatic actions taken since they started to use these codes, including actions related to the Beagle case.

Alfonsin: Leak 'Shameful'

PY072307 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2010 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 Apr (NA) -- President Raul Alfonsin this afternoon stated that "it is a matter of true shame" that a secret Foreign Ministry document has been revealed through the press. He added that this "is not a problem" that can be attributed to the Foreign Ministry. Alfonsin was asked about this subject on returning to the capital from Casilda, where he presided over a symbolic act marking the inauguration of the agricultural campaign. "Are you referring to that leak" of information, Alfonsin asked the reporter who asked him about the "problem" that had taken place at the Foreign Ministry. When it was confirmed that the question indeed referred to that matter, he said: "It is a matter of true shame," and "it is not a problem of the Foreign Ministry."

"It is due," he concluded, "to the fact that essential limits have been trespassed," thus implicitly condemning the attitude of journalist Jesus Iglesias Rouco.

PRESIDENT SILES ADDRESSES NATION ON ECONOMY

PY070435 La Paz Domestic Service in Spanish 0103 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Speech to the nation by President Hernan Siles Zuazo; in La Paz — live]

[Text] Fellow countrymen:

I considered it my duty as a leader to address you to clearly outline the basic characteristics of the serious situation we are currently experiencing and the socioeconomic policy required at this time. If I failed to do sc I would be acquiescing to the weakening of a process which has required so much effort and sacrifice on the part of the country's majority sectors. The installation of a popular, democratic, constitutional government in Bolivia has caused social forces to overlook the self-restraint they had observed for so many years under dictatorial regimes. They have begun to make demands concerning wages, supplies, and fulfillment of regional needs -- which were unheard of during the dictatorship — to the democratic government. These demands were prompted by the crisis, but were also exacerbated by the political ambition of minor groups which deceive the workers by making them believe that direct actions by the masses can by simply used to interrupt basic public services in the quest of unrealistic sociopolitical goals.

This type of irresponsible action is undermining the image of Bolivian democracy, its international credit, the possibility of correcting a crisis-torn economy which is eroding the strength of a government elected by the Bolivian majority in three successive elections. Right-wing sectors which had been forced out of the government have been taking advantage of this situation to sow dissension and uncertainty among the people, to cause them to confuse anarchy with democracy as though they were the same thing and as though the people could only be ruled by force.

These regressive groups are ostensibly protected by the workers because they have managed to infiltrate middle class union organizations and city councils. Under the pretext of fighting the crisis, shortages, and the cost of living increase in these organizations, these activists have instigated the paralysis of public activities, have jeopardized democracy, and are making more difficult the socioeconomic recovery which they claim to promote.

The stubbornness of some business leaders who persist in making provocative remarks to show defiance of the democratic regime is matched by shortsighted salary demands which only stimulate uncertainty and social instability, without bringing any real, honest solution.

The erratic position shown by some political groups is also influencing this situation. Acting demogogically, these sectors are overlooking the fact that if the democratic process is disrupted, they would not only lose possible congressional seats but also the opportunity to become truly representative in the near future.

The task of defending democracy is not the government's exclusive responsiblity. It should be based on the people's awareness, on their disciplined work in rebuilding all those things which had been destroyed by the dictatorship, on their sacrifice in consolidating freedom, on their ability to promote social justice to the benefit of the entire nation and the state, whose existence we should support to honor the effort and vision of those patriots who built it.

We are committed to a constitutional, democratic, and popular government, and not to a government controlled by union or business sectors. The participation of workers in management does not mean changing the democratic, constitutional system, nor imposing a dictatorship by union or business sectors. Comanagement does not mean establishing a parallel government; social advancement will not be achieved through drastic actions which could disrupt the democratic process nor will the private sector contribute to promoting social stability by attempting to railroad the state into defending privileges and profits which are out of keeping with the crisis.

Parties, civic committees, or neighborhood boards cannot constitute governments at the institutional level by themselves if they do not elect their members following the institutional system established by the state. The social sectors must express their concerns through this system, with due respect for the law and with the permanent goal of strengthening, and not of destroying, the state.

If the government, the political parties, the Bolivian Labor Federation, and the congress continue to tolerate this hard-fought and mad race for posing more demands, more obstacles, and more obstruction to the productive apparatus and to the normal functioning of our society, the state will certainly be destroyed.

There are those who charge that we have adopted an economic policy based on pacts. However, they do not say that all those pacts have been agreed upon under pressure, threats, stoppages, and strikes that the democratic government has had to tolerate in order not to stain the clean image of democracy with repression, even though we knew that the government would be called weak in its actions and in its structure. But we cannot say that all the demands were excessive; many of them were justified, and they could be granted only thanks to the democratic government, which has identified itself with the legitimate aspirations of the majority.

The defense of the process is a legitimate objective of the constitutional govenment, becuase the process involves the implementation of the will of the people. The defense of the process is also an imperative need for the opposition, because it would be no good for any political party that hopes to gain power through the ballot boxes in 1986 to inherit an inflationary economy and a decaying society.

We do not want to bequeath ruins to our successors. We want to bequeath a firmly established state that can guarantee democracy. Nobody can fail to notice an essential feature of the state, namely, that is is an entity that continues to exist in time and space. That it is why the actions of a government are so important to its successor. The prospects of those who expect to assume power in the future will be frustrated if sectarian politics, labor disturbances, exaggerated, selfish regional attitudes, and the split in the business and labor sectors continue to hinder the government's serach for real solutions to the current crisis. When we talk about the split in power we are referring to a dangerous tendency that must be stopped. It is the attempt to place the state and its resources at the exclusive service of some state-run enterprises, despite the extremely serious financial drawbacks imposed by the present crisis.

All state-run enterprises must follow a central development plan that should reactivate the national economy, so that they no longer operate as more subsidiaries of the national treasury. Therefore, we will not tolerate the existence of any feudal autarcic sector or economy that are not in line with the main foundations adopted by the Bolivian state.

Since we have already mentioned the distortions and their cause, and the guidelines for the actions that we plan to undertake in the immediate future to correct this difficult situation, we would fulfill neither the mandate of our people nor the demands posed by the vast majority of our nation if we lacked the resolve needed to guarantee that the laws that preserve public order will be respected without exceptions.

The time has come for us to restore the normal functioning of the country for the benefit of the future of the nation. The law must be respected and it must be clearly recognized that not all of the demands can be met, no matter how just they may be, without a simultaneous compensation in terms of production, creative work, and respect for the law.

Ever since we assumed power, we have warned that we cannot and do not want to lie to the people by depicting a picture that has nothing to do with our real situation. Our country is confronting serious difficulties. We will adopt a short-term economic plan to cope with the current situation. This plan is part of a medium-term development program, because it is necessary to project the efforts by private and public enterprises and by the other productive sectors toward the future.

However, the main task will be to cope with and solve immediate problems, trying to maintain employment, salaries, and basic commodity supply at reasonable levels.

Under these difficult circumstances we cannot hope to solve all of our problems at the same time. The efforts by the government and by the people must be concentrated, during a first stage, on the curbing of inflation, the restoration of normal levels of supply, and the reduction of unemployment. Only to the extent that the struggle against inflation succeeds will the workers and all the Bolivian people be able to expect higher incomes and purchasing power. To say the opposite would be lying. Inflation has increased dangerously over recent months. There are several factors, and not all of them are under our control.

Our economy has also been hit by the impact of the international situation, as is reflected by the fact that the price of our tin tends to decline, that it is very difficult to collect the debts owed us for the sale of our raw materials, and that foreign credits and loans are very expensive.

Despite all these drawbacks, the enforcement of our constitutional regime and the legitimacy of our government have allowed us to negotiate agreements for the payment of our gas exports to Argentina and to have access to new sources of external credit. These resources will permit us to meet our immediate needs and to import raw materials for the manufacturing, mining, agriculture and livestock, and industrial sectors, and basic products for the people, such as food and medicine.

We will change the current system for the allocation of foreign currency, which will now be subject to a more careful program that will more closely reflect the actions by those who will use it and who will benefit from it. Therefore, the government will have more control on how those important resources are used.

Currency on the black market is the main factor that has upset our international system. The black market dollar has upset the behavior of several social sectors, which use their limited resources to buy dollars, either to make a profit more easily or to maintain their purchasing power.

Neighboring nations are also suffering from inflation, which distorts their domestic prices thus awakening in certain Bolivians, who do not think about their own country or fellow countrymen, the lust for riches which they can amass through smuggling and illegal trade.

This is further stimulated by subsidized prices. Our economy is too poor to allow us the luxury of subsidizing our neighbors. We cannot tolerate subsidies, created to favor the needy, to be taken advantage of by these few Bolivians who are literally profiting from the hunger of the people.

We do not wish to deceive anyone: The current situation demands enormous sacrifices and an austerity program which must be implemented until production can be reactivated. However, these sacrifices must be shared equitably by all.

We cannot allow the market to take care of supply because the market is socially [word indistinct]. Supply is low while demand is being distorted by the profound differences in the distribution of income. It is also imperative to implement effective mechanisms against speculation because this scourge merely pushes the people beyond endurance.

The state does not have enough income to cover the expenditures and finance its investments, the latter being indispensable if we want the nation's economy to grow.

The salary policy which my government has tried to implement would not succeed because production has continued to decline, thus depriving this policy of appropriate support. This is why we are experiencing an inflation from which only few profit, because of the government's inability to implement proper control.

The difference between official and market prices of certain commodities is too great, and this stimulates corruption and cheating.

The economic program which we will launch is designed to correct all these shortcomings. Inflation could even undermine the very foundation of our democracy. The joint effort of all social sectors of the nation must be aimed, first of all, at changing the factors which motivate the increase of prices and disrupt the operation of our economic system. Thus, the stabilization policy which we are advocating is the first requirement for the fulfillment of the Democratic and Popular Unity [UDP] program which seeks to protect national and popular interests.

If we do not want to lose control over the economy we must curb the current inflationary process, giving back to the state all of its powers and prerogatives by overcoming the feudal system which has become entrenched in each and every one of its institutions. Thus, the economic policy which the government will implement will be enforced in the public sector and no distortions can be tolerated if we want coherence and realistic solutions.

As to the private sector, it will also have to comply with our rules and regulations and we will do our best to support and encourage it as long as it will work in favor of national and collective interests, that is, for as long as its investments and expenditures are productive and aimed at fueling essential economic activities.

As to the financial aspect, for as long as this crisis lasts the state will have to be managed as a single corporation and within the framework of a single policy. To achieve this we will apply a joint-fund [fondo unico] system within which the budget will be managed very strictly.

The fiscal deficit will be dealt with in a timely and realistic manner. Fiscal credits as a source of financing will be reduced to the minimum because they stimulate inflation and have no social and economic meaning.

This will necessitate a permanent adjustment of prices and customs tariffs and amendments to and expansion of the tax base in order to allow revenues from this sector to recover and contribute their share to financing public expenditures.

In this field we will instrument automatic methods which will rely less on personal or administrative judgments because the current situation is so favorable to corruption that it leaves us no other choice. The same will apply to customs and customs tariffs.

We will resort to devaluation as many times as necessary because our economy has been tied to the parallel exchange rate of the U.S. dollar and as long as we fail to resolve this problem we will have to endure the scourge of a speculative economy and shortages.

The foreign currency that public enterprises need will have to be budgeted and approved in advance. The other economic [word indistinct] will have a special system in keeping with their exports, and allotments of foreign currency will be made according to a list of preestablished priorities.

In other words, we must implement an economic policy which will be free from the pressure for U.S. dollars -- be it from savers, holders of foreign loans, or speculators.

There are certain sectors that are forced to save by means of long-term deposits; this is the case of the workers who put aside funds for pensions, for physical disability, old age, or death. The policy we advocate will make sure that their money will be worth today more than it was worth yesterday, thus preventing it from losing purchasing power.

The other side of the coin is credit. Although it may seem that the interest rates are very high, the truth is that the rate of inflation is even higher; therefore, anyone with access to credit is making a considerable profit.

Furthermore, we know that there are irregular financial mechanisms through which financial manipulations are conducted. This, we want the entire system to be placed under the control of the monetary authorities. We also advocate a policy that will protect savings but at the same time will make sure that the loans will be granted only to productive projects with the briefest possible term of maturity.

We must periodically adjust interest rates in keeping with the rate of inflation we are experiencing.

We are sure that the policy we are proposing will insure that the foreign resources that have already been allocated and approved by Congress will be swiftly poured into the economy, thus alleviating the current shortage of foreign currency and imported supplies. However, this is not enough. In order to ease the pressures on the parallel exchange market, stemming from the need to pay the foreign debt of private enterprises, we will create suitable financial mechanisms, but private enterprises will have to make efforts to renegotiate their debts and reestablish their lines of credit.

We have a number of instruments that will allow us to implement an effective policy to control the exchange rate and will give us monopoly over foreign currency. This will require strict discipline as far as currency issuance is concerned.

We will conduct a severe control of fiscal loans to public enterprises and also of refinanced loans to the other economic sectors.

Those government financial organizations that will have part of the responsibility for making decisions to implement this policy will have to meet the requirements of this emergency situation with the utmost, unwavering discipline.

Our policies on prices, salaries, and supplies are closely linked and will succeed only if they stimulate production and supply. The fact that purchasing power declines every time nominal salaries are increased shows that there is a serious production problem. Furthermore, our current policy on prices only stimulates corruption and hoarding.

Therefore we want to focus on this subject from a different angle because if an unrealistic salary policy is maintained, we will be increasing real salaries for a very short while to general nominal levels that would only spark higher inflation and the concentration of income in fewer hands.

We will not let salaries lose their purchasing power without attempting to find ways to compensate for this loss.

What we want to do is to establish a real salary level that will not be too ambitious. We will compensate for price increases of selected basic products. A social pact is needed to give the government the necessary time to organize its mechanisms for supervision and adjustment, precisely to avoid both the concentration of income in a few hands and the strengthening of illegal economic activities that we have time and time again criticized.

Concerning prices, we must acknowledge that we need to establish realistic cost structures. Otherwise we cannot ensure increases in production and supply. It will not be easy to implement this policy, especially if we have to accept rigorous limitations. But if we do not accept them we will only be making the situation worse, and the sacrifice made by some could be wasted by others. In fact, we have to establish strict limitation on public and private spending, on the issuance of currency, on profits and on all those variables whose expansion would undermine the policy of stabilization.

Special emphasis should be placed on payment of the foreign debt. Although we are committed to honoring our debt, annual payments will be limited by the need to not expose our people to further hardships. This is the national agreement required by this situation from both political parties, union, and all other civic and national organizations.

We cannot continue to endure all types of pressure, nomatter how legitimate some of them could be, because we could not possibly honor them without risking the efforts we have made to achieve the stabilization and economic recovery that this government has to undertake to save the country and its democracy.

We are open to both discussions and criticism. The first one to [words indistinct], the second one, to correct errors in the implementation of this policy.

We have reached a point at which only democratic actions are valid to overcome the burden bequeathed to us by the dictatorship and to prevent it from increasingly affecting the future of our country.

We must consider both the problems and the proposed solutions. Failing to do so [words indistinct] I am not exaggerating when I say that this is a national salvation effort.

If we do not end the crisis, it will soon throttle our productive structure, undermine the purchasing power of the salaries and the efficiency of public services, and will inflict more suffering upon the people.

No one can keep away from this challenge. The supreme government is fully prepared for dialogue with any representative institution of the nation within the framework of pluralism characteristic of democracy.

In this regard I would like to point out that it is up to the Congress to approve tax laws in keeping with the needs of the nation, be they draft bills submitted by the lawmakers themselves or by the executive branch.

With social organizations like the Bolivian Labor Confederation we must review and update the terms of the last agreement signed with them. This agreement, which the government has promised to respect, cannot be implemented without certain specific adjustments because reality makes it unfeasible, and in the long run it may bring the workers more grief than benefits.

Thus, it is necessary to make an in-depth review of the implementation of this agreement preserving its original purpose, which is to protect large national sectors.

The monetary measures will help the exporters generate more foreign currency, which the country sorely needs to finance its imports and essential activities.

A favorable treatment of industrial activities will allow this sector to maintain the current rate of employment and to increase it in the future.

This will demand strict control of nonessential or luxury imports. In this regard the state will support those private enterprises that invest in the country, create jobs, and supply Bolivians with goods and services.

From the third component of our economy, the cooperatives, we expect a more dynamic approach. The government wants to promote, encourage, and strengthen the very essence of of the cooperative system, with the understanding that it constitutes an example of the practice of economy and social solidarity.

The strengthening of the democratic government is also based on the institutional awareness of the Armed Forces of the nation. Their permanent and sustained opposition to coups d'etat clearly demonstrated during the term in office of this administration shows a desire to share the interests of the people and the patriotic feelings of their members who are ready to participate usefully in the development of the nation.

We must emphasize that the maintenance of a democratic and institutional system is an essential requisite for obtaining foreign funds capable of alleviating our difficulties with our balance of payments. The fact that Congress has approved loans amounting to $250 million, which will benefit productive sectors, is proof of this claim.

The second stage of the round table on international cooperation with Bolivia involves an inescapable commitment to national interests. Beyond the financial and technical support to be extended to the projects that will be proposed by the Bolivian Government, the round table will serve as evidence of international support for the democratic regime; it will also involve a commitment from the entire Bolivian nation, which will have to undertake joint efforts to obtain the utmost of the resources that friendly countries and agencies will give us.

The era of easy credit and oversized projects is over. In this regard, the foreign loans that we may contract will be different from the irrational indebtedness incurred by the dictatorships.

State-run enterprises are the main tools for attaining development. They are the depositories of the hopes of the entire nation. In this regard, the UDP program put forth the idea of assigning managerial responsibilities to workers through the comanagement system.

This is not yet the time to evaluate the results of the implementation of this system because the time that has elapsed is not long enough and because circumstances have not been normal. Both government and workers must join efforts to raise the moral standards of state-run enterprises and to dignify the work of public servants.

The immunity of those who plunder public goods is another factor that demoralizes the people. The office of the national comptroller general needs full support for the fulfilment of its mission, both for the recovery of public goods and for the investigation into ill-gotten gains that were obtained overnight.

The great moral responsibility of the judicial branch is directly tied with the possibility of meeting this national demand.

Another national demand calls for the fair application of the law in all cases brought to court, so that the state may be based on a juridical order that is actually respected.

We will act in keeping with the guidelines that we have formulated. Our contingency plan will be implemented only if there is the political will to put it into action with the help of all parties and representative institutions of the people, as our common response to the challenge posed by the current crisis, based on dialogue and accord.

The economic policy that we have to adopt must not be judged with an overexcited mind and should not serve selfish political interests because it is the future of the nation that is at stake.

It is therefore necessary to analyze problems calmly and patriotically. No economic program will succeed without a resolute rationalization of state-run enterprises whose chronic deficits are aggravating the difficult situation.

We cannot attain this goal overnight. It is indispensable to start by implementing a contingency plan followed by a national development plan.

Bolivian people: The constitutional and democratic government, which represents the people, is ready to confront and to defeat the crisis. We are all engaged in preserving and strengthening the democratic process because we are convinced that only a democratic government can guarantee the people the free exercise of their rights. However, democracy grants not only rights. Democracy demands above all compliance with our obligation to protect the common well-being.

Therefore, I ask the people, who are the daily protagonists and guardians of the democratic process, to discharge their duties and not to expect everything from the government. Democracy requires the common effort of all the people.

Bolivian people: We will defeat the crisis only if we are united. No one should harbor doubts about our readiness to defeat the crisis and no one should spare his readiness to do so. Bolivia needs your effort. It is imperative that our homeland continue to be a land of free people.

GOVERNMENT IN CRISIS; MIR TO RETURN TO UDF

Contradictory Statements on MIR

PY071608 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1100 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Excerpts] The national government has accepted the various points contained in the counterproposal submitted to it by the Movement of the Revolutionary Left [MIR].

In fact, the MIR has already been reinstated in the governing front, according to Information Minister Mario Rueda Pena.

In response to questions from journalists, Minister Rueda stated that as of 1900 the national executive branch of the Democratic Popular Unity [UDP] and high-ranking MIR leaders have been holding a meeting to analyze various issues aimed at making some final adjustments regarding the party's reinstatement in the front and government duties.

The minister stated that the MIR's conditions had been fully accepted by President Siles Zuazo.

Reliable MIR sources told Panamericana that the information minister's statements that the MIR has practically been reinstated in the UDP are rather hasty. The sources made a point in stating that they had still not received the president's official answer to their proposal regarding their return to the UDP and government duties.

The spokesmen also stated that as long as the MIR does not receive an official answer to its proposal, it is not returning to the government.

Return Confirmed

PY071508 Paris AFP in Spanish 1333 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Excerpts] La Paz, 7 Apr (AFP) -- Filemon Escobar, a leader of the influential Bolivian Labor Federation (COB), told AFP here today that the return of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR), led by Vice President Jaime Paz Zamora, to the government will momentarily delay the outbreak of a coup d'etat.

The return was fully confirmed early this morning, when it was officially announced that the whole cabinet had resigned, including Foreign Minister Jose Ortiz Mercado, whose permanence on the team of ministers had endangered, during the preceding hours, the return of the MIR to government functions.

Resigning Interior Minister Federico Alvarez Plata told AFP that the economic correction measures, announced in a general way by President Herman Siles Zuazo last night, will be signed by the new cabinet, which will be sworn in within the next few hours.

General Elections Demanded

PY080233 Paris AFP in Spanish 1536 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Excerpt] La Paz, 7 Apr (AFP) -- Local political circles report today that the conservative Nationalist Democratic Action (ADN), led by former Bolivian President Hugo Banzer Suarez, is sponsoring the resignation of all its deputies and senators as a way to force the call for general elections.

At the same time, a minority faction of the Nationalist Revolutionary Movement of the Left (MNRI) expressed support for the opposition request that President Hernan Siles Zuazo resign his post so that general elections may be called for immediately.

The positions adopted by the two sectors were made known almost simultaneously with the Bolivian president's decision to recompose the Democratic and Popular Unity (UDP) coalition, to which the Vice President Jaime Paz Zamora-led Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) was readmitted.

The presidential decision, announced over radio network last night, surprised the opposition, which until late last night was still skeptical about the recomposition of the government.

The ADN is trying to gain support from the Historical Nationalist Revolutionary Movement (MNRH), led by former President Victor Paz Estenssoro, and from the pro-PRC Revolutionary Front of the Left (FRI) to force the calling of general elections. The three organizations are demanding that Siles Zuazo resign and that he call for general elections.

Siles Resignation Requested

PY072025 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Excerpt] On the occasion of the anniversary of the 1952 revolution, celebrated on 9 April, the legalist Nationalist Revolutionary Movement of the Left [MNRI] has issued a declaration that, after making a series of observations, demands President Hernan Siles Zuazo's resignation.

The message states that there is no better date than this to address MNRI members and make a series of opportune observations.

The message then goes on to point out that in remembrance of the cruel struggle which took place in 1952 in the La Paz and Oruro barricades interpreting the desire for mobilization of the great majorities, and the clear and revolutionary spirit of our colleague Hernan Siles Zuazo at that time, we request that he submit his irrevocable resignation from the presidency.

The message, which is signed by MNRI Secretary General Luis Palaez Rioja and Executive Secretary Samuel Gallardo Lozada, states that by leaving the presidency Siles will be defending democracy and that the holding of free elections will allow the people to sovereignly elect those who will be in charge of implementing the revolutionary program that has been frustrated due to incapacity, permanent postponements, and the infiltration of extremism, thus condemning the people to hunger and poverty.

Planning Minister Resigns

PY071830 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Text] The cabinet crisis has been confirmed. Planning and Coordination Minister Roberto Jordan Pando has tendered his irrevocable resignation from his ministerial post. The minister, who returned from Lima last night at 2300, confirmed this report to Panamericana. The planning minister said that within the government there is not only one goal, but several, and the lack of decisionmaking continues, he stated.

[Begin Jordan Pando recording] Well, last night I arrived at 2300 and I learned about the negotiations being carried out. I also realized that indecisiveness prevailed and that it would take a few more hours, perhaps days, to arrive at a definite government position.

But despite all this, we can also see a goal to be achieved, and this is even worse, because there is not just one goal, but several. I have assessed the situation, and decided to make my decision public. My decision is final. I have no regrets. I have been asking the government ever since January for a new government plan. I presented a proposal to the president of the Republic, to the ministerial cabinet, and to the parties that make up the government. This proposal was studied. Then I saw a counterproposal presented by the Communsit Party, which was supported by the MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left] and the MNRI [Nationalist Revolutionary Movement of the Left] headed by Alvarez Plata and Cardenas, to reorganize the UDP [Democratic and Popular Unity]. My proposal was aimed at solving national problems, namely, the criticial situation and inflation. [end recording]

The planning minister added that he has tendered his irrevocable resignation to President Hernan Siles Zuazo. There is no decision within the government, on the contrary, many mistakes have been made, disregarding national problems, he stated. He added that multiparty fronts have never yielded good results. Moreover, they are inconsistent and not viable, he said.

Radio Panamericana also recorded Jordan Pando's remarks on presenting his resignation.

[Begin Jordan Pando recording] I have decided to present my irrevocable resignation as planning and coordination minister. I do not see any decision in sight, and if there is a desire to study the two proposals, I would first demand some corrections within the administration, and the solution of political problems. Without this, the situation will not change. I made it very clear to the president of the nation that my resignation is irrevocable.

I also feel that many mistakes have been made in political and ethical areas. These errors must be corrected. I have also seen how national problems are ignored. During the past few hours, for example, the political heads, to use a phrase, of Ortiz Mercado and Jordan Pando have acquired unusual importance because no less than three parties, the Communists, the MIR, and Alvarez Plata's MNRI, have asked for our political heads. Honor and glory to them. These parties have been engaged more in these little problems than in national problems. [end recording]

We have just listented to Planning and Coordination Minister Roberto Jordan Pando who in the past few hours has presented his irrevocable resignation.

Cabinet Resigns En Masse

PY082219 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2141 GMT 8 Apr 84

[Text] La Paz, 8 Apr (EFE) -- The cabinet of President Hernan Siles Zuazo today resigned en masse to allow the president to appoint a new cabinet which will include four ministers from the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR). The resignation was tendered by Interior Minister Federico Alvarez Plata, who emphasized the need for President Siles Zuazo to appoint a new cabinet as soon as possible.

President Siles Zuazois continuing to hold consultations with leaders of the Nationalist Revolutionary Movement of the Left (MNRI), the Bolivian Communist Party (PCB), and the MIR to appoint his new cabinet. It has been reported that the MIR has submitted to the president a list of three candidates for each of the following posts: education minister, planning minister, housing and urban affairs minister, and secretary general of the presidency, from which Siles can choose his future aides.

EFE has learned from government sources that the new cabinet, the sixth one since Siles Zuazo was inaugurated in October 1982, will be installed tomorrow. The 32d anniversary of the 1952 revolution -- which approved the agrarian reform, universal voting rights, and the nationalization of Bolivian mines -- will be commemorated on 9 April.

Army Mobilized in La Paz

LD082123 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 2100 GMT 8 Apr 84

[Text] The EFE correspondent in Bolivia, Jose Tagar, has just telephoned to inform us that the Bolivian Government in session has resigned. The Army has been mobilized and troops are patrolling the streets of La Paz.

Cabinet Installation Postponed

PY080300 Paris AFP in Spanish 0030 GMT 8 Apr 84

[Excerpt] La Paz, 7 Apr (AFP) -- The installation of the new cabinet of Bolivian President Hernan Siles Zuazo, and the promulgation of new economic measures, initially announced for today, have been postponed until Sunday, according to sources close to Government Palace.

The new ministerial team will include the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) of Vice President Jaime Paz Zamora, a party which, it has been indicated, is analyzing the package of economic measures intended to restrain the serious inflationary problem which the country is suffering. Additionally, the mere announcement of the package produced a new increase in prices and the hoarding of consumer goods, for which conservative opposition parties denounced the regime, which they described as antipopular.

New Cabinet Expected 9 Apr

PY091210 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Excerpt] The president's new cabinet could be sworn in today, 9 April. The appointment of the new cabinet has been the subject of important meetings held with the political parties belonging to the recently recomposed Democratic and Popular Unity [UDP]. Talks on the appointment of the new cabinet have taken a bit of time since the Movement of the Revolutionary Left [MIR] was definitely reinstated to the UDP on Saturday.

According to government authorities, the new cabinet might be sworn in today as another homage to the April 1952 revolution. According to the same sources, the swearing in ceremony could take place at noon, after the mass in remembrance of the revolution's martyrs to be held at the San Francisco Church, which has been organized by the National Leftist Revolutionary Movement.

It has been said that the mass will be the most important ceremony of the day and that it will be attended by the president of the republic. The swearing in of the new cabinet will take place after the mass and it is quite possible that in the next few hours the new cabinet will issue some of the decrees that have been subjected to careful study by the UDP members.

NICARAGUANS, CUBANS RUNNING GUERRILLA CAMP

PY082125 Paris AFP in Spanish 2349 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Excerpts] La Paz, 6 Apr (AFP) -- Ten Nicaraguans and seven Cubans have set up a guerrilla training camp in Yapacani, north of Santa Cruz, 1,000 km east of La Paz, Carlos Limpias Jordan, director of radio Willy Bendeck, charged here today. The director of the Santa Cruz radio station, whose facilities were damaged during a terrorist attack last week, also reported that the camp has an airstrip, a powerful radio, and logistical support from official organizations. According to this report, several hundred persons have already undergone military training under the direction of the foreign instructors. The government has not yet answered the charge leveled by Limpias Jordan.

SANTA CRUZ COD DENIES LINK WITH EXTREMISTS

PY060200 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Jose Justiniano Burgos, executive secretary of Santa Cruz Departmental Worker Federation [COD] was asked by La Paz journalists about a report published by the Santa Cruz morning daily EL MUNDO that (Luis Justiniano Edwards), executive secretary of the health workers federation and regional representative of the Industries and Commerce Ministry in Santa Cruz, was arrested and charged with having masterminded and carried out the attack on Radio Willy Bendeck. This is what Jose Justiniano Borgos had to say:

[Begin Justiniano recording] I would like to refute any reports about (Luis Justiniano Edwards') involvement in a guerrilla movement north of Santa Cruz because they are biased.

Unfortunately, Radio Willy Bendeck, which claims to speak for the people but distorts the truth very frequently, was attacked and a few window panes and pieces of radio equipment were destroyed. At that time I spoke on TV channel 7 to refute any involvement of the COD in these types of actions. Thus, I would like to strongly reject this despicable accusation which seeks to get the workers of Santa Cruz involved in this problem. [end recording]

Jose Justiniano Burgos went on to say that the COD of Santa Cruz itself was the target of an attack which is why the workers never resort to violence to obtain satisfaction of their demands.

[Begin Justiniano recording] We have experienced an attack by a group of the Crucenito Youth Union as a result of which our headquarters was partially destroyed. Because of this we seek to maintain a calm attitude, not out of fear but merely because we do not want to give any pretext for provocations which pursue obscure goals. Thus, the COD is not afraid but it will make a call for a demonstration if no solution is achieved within a reasonable time. [end recording]

Jose Justiniano Burgos is not aware of any guerrilla movement as the one which was reported by EL MUNDO. This report claimed that the alleged guerrilla group is operating north of Santa Cruz where the subversives allegedly have a landing strip and powerful transmitters which link them to the base [not further specified]. This report was categorically rejected by Justiniano.

[Begin Justiniano recording] Today was the first time I heard of this and I was just as surprised as my comrades of Santa Cruz must have been. We know nothing about this.

In any case the Santa Cruz COD does not have any funds, we do not even have money for scholarships abroad, to the United States for example. Therefore, it would be impossible for us to finance guerrilla movements, besides this is not the way we operate. The workers have their own means of struggle. The report is biased and I would like to repeat that its ultimate goal is to justify a coup by the drug traffickers and rightwingers. Unfortunately we are unable to identify those responsible.

However, from what we can see, we believe that the only reason for all this is to find in Santa Cruz the motives for a coup d'etat which would reinstate a de facto government and destroy democracy. [end recording]

Justiniano concluded by guaranteeing that the workers know nothing about the guerrilla activities which were reported by the Santa Cruz daily.

ARMY COMMANDER CONCERNED OVER SUPPLY SHORTAGE

PY062136 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Excerpt] There is concern within the Armed Forces, particularly the Army, over the shortage of supplies for troops. These remarks were made to Panamericana by Army Commander General Simon Sejas Tordoya. The Army commander also took this opportunity to emphasize that the Armed Forces will protect the government. General Sejas said: We will fulfill the duties entrusted to us by the Constitution. First of all the Army commander said that there is concern within the Armed Forces over the shortage of supplies for troops.

[Begin Sejas recording] The reason for my visit with the finance minister was to convey to him my command's concern over the shortage of supplies, particularly those needed by the troops. We found receptivity and the finance minister has promised his cooperation in accordance with his possibilities. We believe this visit was fruitful not only to satisfy our needs but also because there is complete coordination between the Army High Command and the Defense and Finance Ministries. [end recording]

It was learned that during this visit the Army commander discussed with the finance minister matters related to the prompt approval of the Armed Forces budget. General Simon Sejas also revealed that Army activities are normal and that the Army will protect the government.

EMERGENCY MEASURES TO BE IMPOSED 19 APRIL

PY061530 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 1000 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Excerpts] The Federal Government has decided to impose emergency measures on 19 April, a few days before the Dante de Oliveira constitutional amendment on reestablishing direct presidential elections is to be voted on 25 April. The measures will be imposed in the Federal District, Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, Goiania, and (Abate) in the State of Goias. This information was provided by congressmen who had met with the president. The purpose of the decision is obvious: to block thousands of demonstrators from going to Brasilia to exert pressure on congressmen. The military ministers and the Armed Forces Joint Staff are in favor of imposing these measures. At the same time, the opposition wants to promote a nationwide stoppage on 25 April.

[Begin Carlos Rodriguez relay from Brasilia] Planalto Palace spokesman Carlos Atila criticized the movement for a stoppage which the government considers illegal. [end relay]

MINISTER WARNS U.S. ON PRIME RATE HIKE

PY062334 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 2150 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Brasilia -- Finance Minister Ernane Galveas today warned the United States that it is playing with fire by allowing a new rise in the prime rate as a result of its inability to reduce its fiscal deficit. In a rather strong statement, Galveas said that the U.S. Government better be careful because further increases in the prime interest rate could prevent developing countries from repaying their foreign debt and this would be disastrous for all.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH U.S. ON AIR TRANSPORT STALLED

PY071610 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Text] U.S.-Brazilian negotiations for a new air transport agreement have reached a standstill. The provisional agreement will expire on 24 April and it is quite unlikely that it will be renewed before then. The U.S. authorities have termed the Brazalian economic regulations as discriminatory and have made a counterproposal that the Brazilian authorities consider unacceptable. Aeronautics Minister Jardim de Mattos Delio disclosed that bilateral talks have been suspended until a new date is set to make another effort to reach an agreement. For the time being, there will be no changes in the [words indistinct] program.

ARGENTINA MAY SETTLE DEBT WITH EXPORTS

PY061710 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 5 Apr 84 p 20

[Text] Brasilia -- If the Argentine Government does not have U.S. dollars available within 30 days to pay off the $50 million which it has borrowed from Brazil, it may settle this debt by exporting to the Brazilian market, Jose Carlos Madeira Serrano, head of the foreign department of the Central Bank, stated yesterday. After stating that the payment deadline will not be extended, Madeira Serrano denied that Brazil has been hurt by collecting from Argentina a "spread" [in English] (added risk rate) of only 1 percent, while Brazil is charged 2 percent when it borrows on the international financial market. "We borrow with a 'spread' of 2 percent, but with a 9-year payback period plus a 4-year grace period. We have lent to Argentina with a 'spread' of 1 percent for repayment in 30 days."

PRESIDENT LEAVES FOR VISITS TO MOROCCO, SPAIN

PY090251 Paris AFP in Spanish 0151 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Text] Brasilia, 8 Apr (AFP) -- Brazilian President General Joao Figueiredo left Brasilia today at 2230 local time (0130 GMT Monday) for Fez, Morocco, on a 3-day official visit. Next Wednesday, the Brazilian president will leave Morocco for Madrid, where he will stay on an official visit until Saturday, when he will return to Brasilia.

Figueiredo's entourage is made up of 22 persons, including 7 ministers. In Morocco he will meet Moroccan King Hassan II and Prime Minister Mohamed Karim-Lamrani.

FIGUEIREDO CRITICIZES TLATELOLCO TREATY

PA070038 Mexico City NOVEDADES in Spanish 31 Mar 84 pp 1, 11

["Part 2" of interview with President Joao Figueiredo by special reporter Joaquin Lopez-Doriga V., in Brazil; date not specified]

[Excerpt] Brasilia, 30 Mar -- President Joao Figueiredo today reasserted his refusal to sign the Tlatelolco Treaty and issued the harshest criticism ever against the agreement, describing it as partial, discriminatory, and incapable of banning the atom's use in war or of providing it for peace.

During an exclusive interview granted to NOVEDADES, the Brazilian head of state broadly rejected the Mexican treaty, saying it establishes unequal rights and obligations by institutionalizing an unacceptable division between countries with nuclear weapons and countries without nuclear weapons -- something his government rejects categorically. "It bans only the so-called horizontal proliferation by preventing the theoretical possibility of a future purchase of nuclear weapons by countries which do not have them; however, it does not mention the vertical proliferation, the real one, which is the stepped-up expansion and improvement of the great powers' nuclear arsenals."

The Arguments Continue

Expanding on his country's arguments for rejecting and opposing the agreement, the president said:

1. The Tlatelolco Treaty does not foresee any efficient system to protect the non-nuclear countries from an aggression by the nuclear powers.

2. The pledge to start, within a short time, the talks to halt the arms buildup and negotiate a general and complete agreement on disarmament is useless and obsolete. He recalled that the Tlatelolco Treaty was signed in 1968, 16 years ago, and nothing has been done to achieve its goals.

"In short, Tlatelolco disarms the countries which -- like Brazil -- are unarmed and have no intention of arming themselves. It has been incapable of providing the atom for peace or banning its use in a war. That is why the treaty is partial and discriminatory," he asserted.

Figueiredo described as "gross misinterpretations" the stories that have circulated regarding a Brazil-FRG alliance to develop the former into a nuclear power in the military sector. "This is a myth because it violates the basis of Brazilian policy -- which has been proved because our country has signed every anti-nuclear treaty in the world except the Tlatelolco Treaty. We have maintained a firm and clear political position that rejects an arms buildup."

Rejection of the Arms Buildup

Figueiredo recalled that the joint communique signed during his visit to Mexico last year emphasized his rejection of the buildup of nuclear arsenals, because this endangers the survival of mankind on our planet.

He continued: "I wish to state clearly the absolutely peaceful plans that Brazil has regarding the atom's use. We do not pretend to be a nuclear power, and we are not allies of countries that believe this or use their nuclear power for destruction."

Asked whether the first nuclear reactor in Latin America already exists in Brazil, he replied: That is another gross misinterpretation. The question does not reflect our reality; it is wrong. "Your question represents another misinterpretation, because it takes for granted that Brazil has already installed the first nuclear reactor in the region."

He asserted that the Brazilian nuclear program has exclusively peaceful goals and seeks to solve the country's energy needs since it has the world's fifth largest uranium reserves. Once the nuclear procedures are controlled, the country will be free from its dependence on foreign energy sources and be able to fully exploit its industrial potential and fulfill any other type of national needs.

Brazil is currently importing 1 and 1/2 million barrels of oil per day. Its payments represent 30 percent of all its annual exports.

Figueiredo added: "I also want to tell you that the nuclear program is subject to a control and security system that is much more strict than the one foreseen in the Tlatelolco Treaty. Our system has been approved by unanimous decision and without modifications by the board of governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency."

Respect Toward Treaties

The president insisted: "We advocate the treaties that effectively prevent and control the spread of nuclear weapons and at the same time advocate the atom's use for peaceful goals, and this is not the case with the Tlatelolco Treaty."

VOLKSWAGEN DISMISSES 2,000 STRIKING METALWORKERS

PY052119 Paris AFP in Spanish 1712 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Sao Paulo, 5 Apr (AFP) -- Volkswagen has dismissed around 2,000 metalworkers who have been holding a slowdown strike since the first of the week. This slowdown was decided upon by the unions to curb production and to put pressure on Volkswagen to renew collective contracts.

At the same time, the group of 14 of the Sao Paulo State Federation of Industries [FIESP], which represents the employers, has begun negotiations with six independent metalworker unions.

Four other enterprises employing approximately 11,000 workers have also announced that they are ready to meet the union demands, which vary somewhat with those being considered by FIESP.

According to labor sources, the number of workers dismissed by Volkswagen varies between 1,500 and 2,000. The company released a note stating that during the past few years it has been carrying more workers than it really needs, and therefore in view of the current situation, it becomes rather impossible to keep these extra personnel.

REPORTAGE ON RELEASE OF NUNCIATURE REFUGEES

Supreme Court Clears Way

PY060220 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] In response to a consultation made by the foreign and justice ministers, at the special request of the president of the Republic, the Supreme Court has stated that the granting of safe-conducts to four extremists who sought refuge in the nunciature does not interfere with the court's actions. It should be recalled that the Vatican requested the safe-conducts. Foreign Minister Del Valle, for his part, has stated that the chief of state has always had the power to grant the safe-conducts but that he wanted the Supreme Court's opinion. With this he has shown his respect for the Supreme Court's rulings.

He also stated that Apostolic Nuncio Msgr Angelo Sodano has already been given an answer and, should it be positive, the Vatican representative himself would disclose what day the extremists could leave the country. That could be any day.

[Begin Del Valle recording] If the president of the Republic's answer is positive, the Foreign Ministry will expeditiously request that the Interior Ministry issue the corresponding safe-conducts or respective authorization with which the nuncio will then be able to take the necessary steps to say on what day those persons may leave the country. That could be in 10, 20, or 15 days. It will depend on a lot of factors. It could be Tuesday, it could be any day. [end recording]

Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle also stated that President Pinochet has been informed of the Supreme Court's answer, and added:

[Begin recording] [Del Valle] Based on extremely valuable information, the president of the Republic will be able to make a final decision regarding the case of the extremists that have sought refuge in the nunciature.

[Unidentified reporter] When do you think this decision will be made?

[Del Valle] That is something the president of the Republic will decide. I cannot give you a date. The decision will be made expeditiously. [end recording]

The minister ended by stating that the Supreme Court's reply has nothing to do with extraditing the four extremists, but with letting them out of the country.

Safe-Conducts Granted

PY062304 Paris AFP in Spanish 2223 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Santiago, 6 Apr (AFP) -- Chilean diplomatic sources have confirmed a report released in Ecuador to the effect that the four leftist refugees who are staying at the Apostolic Nunciature have obtained safe-conducts to leave the country. The announcement was made this afternoon in Quito by the Ecuadoran Foreign Ministry before the news was released in Santiago. The four refugees, who are members of the outlawed Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR), have been inside the Vatican's diplomatic mission in Santiago for 31 days.

Refugees To Go to Ecuador

PY071312 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Excerpts] The four extremists who took refuge in the nunciature will reportedly go to Ecuador in the next few hours. The two men and two women took refuge in the nunciature on 16 January, when they were pursued by security forces for their involvement in the murder of Intendant Carol Urzua and his two bodyguards. The terrorists were transferred early this morning to Arturo Merino Benitez Airport in two diplomatic cars, accompanied by papal envoy Claudio Celli and first Nunciature Secretary (Antonio Soto). Radio Nacional newsmen (Hugo Reyes) has the following report:

[Begin (Reyes) relay] Thank you. Right now the four extremists of the nunciature case are at an Air Force building located about 1,800 km from the central [word indistinct] of Comodoro Arturo Merino Benitez Airport. We can also report that the ICEM [Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration] has provided tickets for the four subversives, according to what has been learned here at the airport.

The extremists left the nunciature at 0324 and arrived at the airport about a half hour later, accompanied by Msgr (Soto) who traveled with the two women, while Celli accompanied the two men in the other car. The motorcade consisted of about 17 cars. Here at the airport all is quiet and a Chilean Air Force helicopter is providing security coverage. At any time we will return with more news, as warranted by events. That is all. [end relay]

Nunciature Expresses Gratitude

PY080226 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Excerpt] The Apostolic Nunciature has expressed its gratitude to the Chilean government for granting safe-conducts to the four extremists who had lived as refugees at the nunciature for 72 days.

Foreign Ministry on Decision

PY072035 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Text] The government has acted in good faith, with courtesy toward the high pontiff, and strictly in accordance with the law in the nunciature case. This is the conclusion drawn in a document in which the reasons are given why the government granted authorization for the four terrorists to leave the country and go to Ecuador. The document released by the Foreign Ministry through its foreign policy director, (Mario Barros), says that the court trying the case of the murder of the former Santiago intendant will make a decision regarding a possible extradition request. The statement says that the government decided to authorize the departure of the extremists as an exceptional case. To that effect, the safe-conducts were delivered and the individuals were put at the disposal of the apostolic nuncio.

It is stressed that the solution to the delicate problem, which was of a political diplomatic, and legal nature, became delayed in waiting for the Supreme Court resolution regarding the case. This happened because the government did not wish to adopt hasty measures which might be interpreted as interference in the jurisiction of the courts. The court points out, however, that the government was inspired with the intention of observing the greatest respect toward the Holy Sea, the high pontiff, and the apostolic nuncio.

The document goes on to say that to reach the best decision, the president of the Republic preferred to consult with the Supreme Court. The consultation referred to the appeal of irrelevance [recurso de inaplicabilidad] made by the accused in the trial of the case of the treacherous murder of Major General Carol Urzua, former metropolitan intendant, and his two bodyguards. It adds that, since the Supreme Court had made known its decision regarding that appeal and taken the appropriate measures, nothing stood in the way of the government in requesting an opinion on the matter.

Thus, on 29 March the government asked if a decision that authorized the compulsory guests at the nunciature to abandon the country could in any way mean interference with the administration of justice. On 5 April the court replied to the consultation that it was the exclusive prerogative of the president to make a decision on the matter and that this did not imply interference with the court action. Consequently, the Foreign Ministry stresses, the decision to authorize the departure of the refugees, requested by the Holy Father, was made taking into consideration the opinion of the Supreme Court. In addition, it was taken into account that diplomatic missions are inviolable, a condition that Chile respects absolutely, and which makes those persons inaccessible to Chilean justice. Regarding the possibility of a future extradition request, it is not for the executive branch to make any statement, since this matter lies within the exclusive jurisdiction of the court trying the case in question.

The official statement says that the supreme government trusts that its action will find the appreciation it deserves, both from the Holy Father, his diplomatic representative, and the public, since it shows that the government has acted in good faith, with the greatest courtesy, and strictly in accordance with the law and, consequently, in accordance with deep Chilean traditions. The document concludes by saying that the government has acted in accordance with its prerogatives, safeguarding the independence of other branches of the state and considering with the greatest good will the request of His Holiness Pope John Paul II, toward whom Chile and its government harbor the greatest affection, gratitude, and respect.

MDP, HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION LEADERS EXPELLED

PY071614 Paris AFP in Spanish 1436 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Text] Santiago, 7 Apr (AFP) -- Jaime Insunza, secretary general of the Popular Democratic Movement [MDP], and Leopoldo Ortega, leader of the Chilean Human Rights Commission, were today expelled from Chile and sent to Brazil on a Copper [Industry] Airline [LADECO] flight. This information was learned today through MDP and LADECO sources, although it was not officially confirmed. Insunza and Ortega were detained last night in Santiago by planclothes agents of the military government security services, according to their relatives.

Interior Minister Explains

PY072130 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Interior Minister Jorge Onofre Jarpa has stated that political leaders Jaime Insunza and Leopoldo Ortega were expelled from the country today for violating Article 8 of the Constitution, which forbids the publication of doctrines of a totalitarian nature. Minister Jarpa made this statement in a press conference during which he confirmed the departure from the country of Insunza and Ortega aboard a LADECO [Copper Airline] flight for Brazil this morning. They were also charged with violating Article 24, Annex C, of the Constitution.

COLORADO PARTY 'VOICE' ON MOPOCO, U.S. REPORT

PY050343 Asuncion Red Privada de Emisoras Network in Spanish 0030 GMT 5 Apr 84

[From "The Voice of the Colorado Party" program]

[Excerpt] A subject that interests us is the following: The street beggars -- very few in number -- have appeared again on the list of 13 terrorist organizations in Paraguay. We are not saying this. This is not our invention. It is not an accusation by the Interior Ministry. This is said in the book "Terrorism in America" edited by the Argentine Patriotic Association.

This book, which is found in all libraries throughout the world, and certainly among the best books of literature on the traitors, legionnaires, and rabidly mad anti-Paraguayans of the very few [muy poco, a sarcastic reference to MOPOCO, the Colorado Popular Movement], cites in the section dedicated to Paraguay the following terrorist organizations, among which MOPOCO is cited as the main one.

Herewith is the list of the terrorist organizations: CPPE, Paraguayan Confederation of Workers in Exile; EPR, Paraguayan Revolutionary Army; FREPALINA, National Paraguayan Liberation Front; FULNA, United National Liberation Front; MODEPA, Movement for the Defense of the Fatherland; MOPOCO, Colorado Popular Movement; OPM, Political-Military Organization; PCLP, Paraguayan Leninist Communist Party; PCP, Paraguayan Communist Party, Oscar Cruedt faction; PORA, Armed Revolutionary Workers Party, PRP, Revolutionary Paraguayan Party; PRC, Revolutionary Colorado Party; and PM, Primero de Marzo.

As you can see, and it is worth repeating once and a thousand times if necessary, this list is not a product of our invention or imagination. This list is found in the index of the above-mentioned book issued by the Argentine Patriotic Association. Let them not come to us now with the tall story that the movement of the very few should not be included in this list. As we read a few days ago in an article published in the suspended mouthpiece of opposition and subversion, the book was edited by the Argentine Patriotic Association, and in Argentina, where the very few is headquartered.

Let them not come to us with the cock-and-bull story that the MOPOCO should not be included among the terrorist organizations as stated by Ambassador Davis. The situation is clear and final: The MOPOCO is included in the list of terrorist movements issued by the Office for Combatting Terrorism of the U.S. State Department.

Now the MOPOCO is also included as a terrorist organization in the list of subversive movements in the book "Terrorism in America," which is edited by the Argentine Patriotic Association. Therefore, the interior minister did not lie, the government did not lie, and the Voice of the Colorado Party did not lie. Either MOPOCO or the U.S. Embassy has lied.

Again, the problem does not involve the Colorado Party, the minister, the government, or us. The problem involves the U.S. State Department and the Argentine Patriotic Association. We are making this comment for the record for future generations, so that present and future generations will know who is who in our country, who are the terrorists, who, as such, brazenly lie, falsify, and distort.

SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY ESTABLISHED 1 APRIL

PY031852 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0413 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Montevideo, 1 Apr (EFE) -- The Social Democratic Party [PSD] today formally came to life on the Uruguayan political stage. The program of the new party was presented during its establishment ceremony. According to the new PSD leaders, the PSD is the result of a union among some lesser leaders of the traditional Uruguayan Blanco and Colorado Parties, some Christian Democratic leaders, and some leaders of small non-Marxist groups within the left-wing Broad Front coalition, currently banned by the military regime.

The Uruguayan Social Democrats now have 2 months to collect signatures from supporters which, according to the law on political parties, would allow the PSD to operate officially by November, when the elections are to take place.

The PSD party charter, which was publicly released today, has a socialist slant, although it does not endorse any international trend because of the ban imposed on Uruguayan political parties concerning relations with political organizations abroad. The PSD today rejected the proscription of citizens and parties, imposed by the Uruguayan de facto regime. It demanded that the Uruguayan Constitution and the rights and guarantees established in it be fully put into effect and that the Armed Forces be subject to the political power.

INTERIOR MINISTER ON STATUS OF PARTIES, BANS

PY061800 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Interior Minister General Julio Cesar Rapela announced at noon that the Christian Democratic Party has a different status than the rest of the political organizations that have been banned since 1973. Asked by Radio El Espectador and Cadena de Oro, Gen Rapela said that the Christian Democratic Party has been banned since 1976, when it was given the same status as the National, Colorado, and Civic Union Parties. Gen Rapela added that until May, at least, no bans on political parties, political factions, or political leaders will be lifted.

INTERIOR MINISTER ASKS MEDIA FOR 'COMMON SENSE'

PY301412 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0340 GMT 29 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Montevideo, 29 March (EFE) -- The Uruguayan military regime today asked local news media for "common sense and prudence" to make sure that the nation will attain democracy "without winners or losers." Interior Minister General Julio Rapela privately conveyed this concern of the government to the publishers of dailies and other printed media and to the directors of radio and television stations. The minister reminded them that the decrees which restrict dissemination of political news and commentaries are still in effect. He feels that they have not been respected recently because the government has been tolerating outbursts as its own contribution to the effort to pacify the nation.

Rapela added that "there is considerable concern over the praise which is being extended to criminals and members of subversive organizations" in the news media lately. Rapela told the publishers that the press is being used to instigate opposition demonstrations and warned that those who publish the calls will be held responsible if incidents or disruptions of public order take place.

MEXICAN PRESIDENT CONCLUDES OFFICIAL VISIT

Meets With Lusinchi

FL060249 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2307 GMT 5 Apr 84

[By special correspondent Sadot Fabila Alva]

[Text] Caracas, 5 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- Meeting for the third time, the presidents of Mexico and Venezuela today reiterated their concern over the problems facing Latin America, the threat of war and the crisis affecting the peoples in the region.

President Miguel de la Madrid was received by his counterpart, Jaime Lusinchi, at 1600 at the Military Academy's Courtyard of Honor. De la Madrid said it would be irresponsible for our governments to remain indifferent before the problems, that isolation would not be the attitude of statemen and, above all, that we know we live in an interdependent world. He stressed that Mexico and Venezuela play a role in history and that it is not passive; that the two nations respond to a foreign policy which not only agrees in theory but also in actions aimed at finding peace, at Latin American rapprochement to intensify cooperation among us and to defend our interests before the community of nations.

Dialogue is easy, the Mexican president said when pointing out that what is difficult is our problems, but that together the two countries could benefit themselves and all of Latin America, above all with Venezuela whose Bolivar is our continent's symbol of union.

President Lusinchi told the visitor he had arrived in a country which has a profound love and admiration for the Mexican people and their history, which is full of vital heroism, projections, and fruitful teachings. Mexico and Venezuela, he indicated, can be seen in Juarez and Bolivar, facing the challenges of the great problems which are characteristic of our peoples and common in the world. The two nations, with popular and democratic sensibility, as free peoples who exercise freedom, will face up to the challenges of the present and future, provoked by a convulsed world, he stated.

He said he is convinced that the conversations with the Mexican president will lead to the strengthening of the ties which have traditionally united us, and that the bilateral relations and our system of Latin American values will be bolstered. For me, the Venezuelan president said, it is an honor to see you again; welcome to this land which is also yours.

Earlier, President De la Madrid received the honors befitting his office from members of the Military Academy and students of primary schools, among them the Benito Juarez primary school, whose students carried a picture of the distinguished liberator and Mexican flags.

After the official speeches, De la Madrid received the key to the city of Caracas from the president of the Federal District Municipal Council.

The visiting head of state arrived at the Simon Bolivar International Airport in Maiquetia at 1500, after a flight from Buenos Aires with a brief stop in Manaos, Brazil, where he visited the governor of the state and toured the Amazonas Museum Theater.

Presidents Issue Statements

FL061848 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0300 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Caracas, 5 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- President Miguel de la Madrid, in a statement to Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi on the need to facilitate the conclusions of the Latin American Economic System, said that in Mexico conditions are right to renew economic growth in order to achieve shared and sustained growth.

During the dinner given for him by the Venezuelan president, President De la Madrid said: We need to prepare ourselves to obtain credit and refinancing terms in the future which will be adequate for our developmental needs and not just financial readjustments. He said that we are now moving in that direction, adding that: We have begun to talk among ourselves and to participate in regional cooperation agreements on Latin American assistance, activities of which we had been considered incapable.

He said that the matter does not simply concern reestablishing the current scheme of international relations, it concerns profoundly reforming it, promoting stable and shared economic expansion, which assures the development of all sides and promotes democratic international activity favoring peace.

De la Madrid said that Latin America is becoming more democratic, a fact that cannot help but influence the direction and scope of hemispheric relations. He insisted that a new continental relationship is needed which would fulfill the current and future development needs of the countries of Latin America, which would correct old imbalances, which would open lines of political communication and dialogue, and which would attend to the legitimate needs of everyone.

President Lusinchi said that agreeing on positions on the great international questions and the joining of our two countries' efforts could not help but bring about a Latin America that is secure in itself, vital and strong, and actively participating in world affairs. He added that Latin America can and should solve its own problems with dialogue and mutual understanding which unfailingly points toward a community of similar basic values and hopes.

In other matters, he stressed that the Contadora Group should continue with whatever innovations are necessary to ensure the completion of its commitment and to maintain vigilance in Central America. He said that the Contadora Group has stressed above all else that joint actions between our nations is indeed viable and beneficial and that it is possible, when we want to do so, to play an influential role in the search for solutions to regional problems.

De la Madrid Addresses SELA

PA082138 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2143 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Caracas, 6 Apr (EFE) -- Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid today appealed for strengthened Latin American cooperation in all areas. De la Madrid visited the headquarters of the permanent secretariat of the Latin American Economic System (SELA), where he spoke to the members of the board. Speaking before representatives of SELA, Miguel de la Madrid recalled that his country has promoted and given the greatest support to this organization and is proud that it has grown throughout the Latin American region. "In the past few days," he noted, "through direct contact with diverse sectors of Latin America, I have fully confirmed that our countries must consolidate their common actions, extending the borders of political cooperation and accelerating the path of integration above all differences."

He noted that, to the extent that Latin American countries stray from integration, so will their dependence and vulnerability increase. He voiced his concern over the economic crisis affecting Latin America and the serious problems it has caused in the region. "The crisis," he added, "has altered development conditions in Latin America, and periods of sustained growth have given way to chronic inflation, persistent recession, asphyxiating indebtedness, protectionism, and the unemployment that is corroding the bases of social structure." The Latin American countries, De la Madrid said, are testing their capacity for adaptation, institutional transformation, and resistance to the high costs of adjustment which the great economic crisis entails. "It is fundamental that the Latin American countries maintain their will to change and restore the conditions of stable, balanced, participative, and just development," he stressed before the SELA representatives. He noted, however, that these changes in the patterns of production cannot impose costs above the limits of social tolerance or the minimal economic conditions that must be guaranteed.

He later openly criticized the escalation of international banking interest rates, which are causing serious problems for the Latin American debtor countries.

Nonetheless, he was optimistic about Latin American integration, which has been revitalized by shared experiences.

He also recalled that the Malvinas war moved the Latin American spirit of unity and gave birth to a new era in relations among these countries.

The Mexican president also expressed satisfaction because the spirit of democracy is again flourishing in Latin America and leaving the marks of liberty. "The SELA is called upon to fulfill a task of vast importance in the history of Latin American integration," the Mexican president concluded.

Joint Declaration Signed

PA072341 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1744 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Text] Caracas, 7 Apr (DPA) -- The presidents of Venezuela and Mexico today pronounced themselves against destabilizing actions, border incidents, and military projects.

In a joint declaration signed today at the end of an official 3-day visit to Venezuela by the Mexican president, Miguel de la Madrid and Jaime Lusinchi reiterated their "steadfast will" to continue within the framework of the Contadora Group (which also includes Panama and Colombia) in the quest for peaceful and negotiated solutions to the Central American conflict, with the firm conviction that this process constitutes the only valid option in the face of the confrontation "and as a Latin American response to the conflict affecting the region." At the same time, they noted that the Contadora efforts have permitted the establishment of a political dialogue among the Central American governments, reduced the chances of a conflagration, and established the bases for regional pacification, "provinding a common framework of understanding and tolerance which responds to the inalienable right of the peoples to live in peace, free of threats and foreign interference."

"To this end," they noted, "it is necessary to abandon the path of destabilizing actions, border incidents, and military projects which impede dialogue and regional conciliation."

To the same end, the two presidents agreed on the urgency with which countries with interests and ties in the region should effectively contribute their support for the Contadora process and that the Central American countries should adhere to the commitments assumed in the document of objectives, "so as to consolidate understandings and secure the juridic agreements that definitively establish a climate of peace and cooperation."

Regarding the energy program which favors Central America and some countries of the Caribbean, both presidents stressed that on its next annual revision "and in light of the circumstances that gave rise to its origin and the objectives that were assigned to it, it will be necessary to make it compatible with the needs of the countries to which it is directed and with the legitimate interests of those granting it."

Both presidents spoke at length about bilateral relations, trade relations, establishing reciprocal terms of economic cooperation, and the decline of commercial negotiations in the past few years. In this regard, they underlined the need to establish new forms of political understanding and economic cooperation. At the same time, they favored strengthening and reorganizing the inter-American system and expressed their support of the Latin American Economic System (SELA).

Regarding the Central American conflict, they agreed that the prevailing situation is a cause for concern and entails "serious risks." They noted the developments that, "far from contributing to easing the tensions, tend to heighten them and increase the threat of a generalized conflict which affects the region as a whole and causes irreparable damage to hemispheric relations."

They also decried nuclear and conventional arms, the general economic deterioration, protectionist measures implemented by the industrialized countries, persistently high interests rates, and the decreasing availability of funds to finance development.

They also noted the "special significance" of the financial operation which their countries, together with Brazil and Colombia, have carried out to assist Argentina, helping it to meet part of the interest payment on its foreign debt.

They also favored the principle of nonintervention and the self-determination of peoples, speeding up disarmament negotiations, invariable support for the efforts of the United Nations to maintain peace, and establishing regional unilateral preferential tariffs for the countries of the Latin American Irtegration Association (ALADI) and others of Latin America.

Regarding oil, they noted that permanent consultations with other oil-exporting countries have contributed to promoting market and price stability and reiterated their commitment to the recovery of the international oil market. Both presidents also said that the state enterprises of the energy sector could assist in the development of their countries "more effectively."

Both referred to the problem of drug trafficking and its international ramifications, pronouncing themselves in favor of the adoption of joint measures "for a concerted international effort" and for the reestablishment of technical cooperation.

Leaves for Panama

PA071544 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1516 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Text] Caracas, 7 Apr (EFE) -- Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid today concluded his visit to Venezuela with the signing of a joint declaration with his colleague, Jaime Lusinchi.

The visiting president was bade farewell at Miraflores Palace by President Lusinchi after a 44-hour visit.

He received the honors befitting his high post at Miraflores Palace and was later taken to the Simon Bolivar International Airport, 30 km from Caracas.

President Miguel de la Madrid left for Panama, the last leg of his tour of several Latin American countries.

BRIEFS

FRENCH MINISTER VISITS -- Roger Quilliot, French minister for urban affairs and housing, arrived in Caracas 18 March for an official 2-day visit. The French official will meet with Venezuelan Urban Development Minister Rafael Martin Guedez; Development Minister Hector Hurtado; Orlando Castejon, Venezuelan minister for environment and natural renewable resources; and Caracas Governor Carmelo Lauria in order to exchange views on housing and, possibly, to reach agreements on the matter. [Summary] [Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 19 Mar 84 PA]

CHILEAN DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE -- Representatives of the different Chilean political parties -- Christian Democratic, Radical, Socialist, and MAPU-OC [United Popular Action Movement-Workers and Peasant Faction] -- inspired by Bolivarian ideals and the terrible experiences of the past decade, have agreed to form a Democratic Alliance in Venezuela, to fully support the great historical objectives that this powerful bloc of parties has drawn up in Chile, and to call upon all Chileans residing in Venezuela to share these objectives to promote a reactivation of their support to the heroic mobilization of the Chilean people. [Summary] [Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 20 Mar 84 pp 1, 21 PA]

PRESIDENT DE LA MADRID MAKES BRIEF VISIT

Welcomed by Illueca

PA071914 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1651 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Speech by Panamanian President Jorge Illueca at the welcoming ceremony for Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid at the General Omar Torrijos Herrera International Airport -- live]

[Text] Your Excellency Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid: We welcome you most cordially to this capital which [Simon] Bolivar chose as the site of the 1826 **Amphictyonic Congress** that he called to draft a union, league, and confederation treaty -- the historic predecessor of the United Nations -- which would consolidate the unity of the Latin American republics while at the same time defending them from foreign intervention and domination.

The plan for Latin American integration and unity designed in Panama should have been improved upon in Tacubaya, Mexico. It was not to happen, but the unfinished work continues to be valid as a challenge and mandate whose fulfillment will continue to be demanded from their leaders by the Latin American youths of today and the future.

President De la Madrid, the messengers of this aspiration, the spirits of Bolivar and [Benito] Juarez, have accompanied you from your noble land to those of Colombia, Brazil, Argentina, and Venezuela on a trip that ends today in Panama as a sure omen that the day is not far off when a confederation or league of Latin American states will be a reality from Rio Bravo to Tierra del Fuego, including the basins of the Orinoco, the Amazon, and the Parana Rivers and the Caribbean, thus assuring our peoples the economic benefits of political independence.

Through a significant and historic coincidence our two countries currently preside over the UN General Assembly and the Group of 77 that covers the Third World. We are also united in the task of Latin American integration and unity. President De La Madrid, you have carried out an important part of this task as the architect of the coordination of the central banks of Colombia, Mexico, Venezuela, and Brazil which has enabled Argentina, with the help of the U.S. financial institutions, to make the first payment on its foreign debt obligations. In addition, to representing an example of international cooperation, this action unveils a horizon of hope for the concerted action of the Latin American nations in the financial-economic field, as was foreseen in the historic Quito Declaration of 13 January 1984.

Sharing the same ideals, Mexico and Panama were initiators of SELA, which was established by the 1975 Panama Agreement. The agreement unite the member countries in the defense of common interests in the face of Third World countries or groups of those countries and deeply commits us in the task of Latin America's development and liberation from all dependence.

Along with Colombia and Venezuela, our two countries constitute the factor of peace that has won the confidence of the international community due to efforts to peacefully solve the Central America political crisis through negotiations. Contadora has prevented the military confrontation in two Central American conuntries from becoming a regional escalation that would lead to a war of grave proportions and consequences not only in our continent but worldwide.

We hope that significant agreements for the reestablishment of peace and security in the area will soon be achieved. However, we cannot conceal the concern and apprehension caused by the contradiction that while Contadora does not cease its efforts for peace, powers from outside the region continue to verbally and materially encourage the groups that obstinately seek to impose solutions of force. In view of this reality we must categorically state that the military activities, the placing of mines in ports open to world shipping, and the presence of troops of third countries in the Central American subregion, especially in the areas affected by hostilities, is incompatible with Contadora efforts.

Panama does not forget the unreserved support and solidarity that the Mexican people and Government have given to Panamanian demands with regard to the Panama Canal issue and that, along with the contributions of the other Latin American states, cleared the way for the 1977 canal treaties. The fulfillment of these treaties has not yet been completed and we Panamanians have to remain vigilant and alert so that the letter and spirit of the treaties will be completely fulfilled and so that they will not be distorted by the action of sectors afflicted with imperialist nostalgia.

Mexico's solidarity is supported by the historic and moral strength that comes from its people's tradition of difficult struggles for freedom and independence. They were begun by its Indians, continued with the glorious lineage of the liberators, and flowered with the child heroes of Chapultepec, symbols of courage, stoicism, and serenity in the face of the supreme sacrifice that is characteristic of the Mexican men and women. The Mexican revolution, mother and teacher of the Latin American liberation movements, continues to guide with its teachings and strengthens with its example the hopes for redemption of the Latin American peoples who are determined to control their own destiny.

The inspiring example of Mexico in the permanent defense of the people's right to self-determination is always present in our minds and hearts, as evidenced by the monument that has been built in our capital in honor of Jose Maria Morelos, heroic architect of the Chilpancingo Declaration of Independence. The great Mexican people, while not frightened by the difficulties of war, are resolute supporters of peace. Benito Juarez, one of their most representative figures, defined peace with an unforgettable phrase. He defined peace as respect for the rights of others.

The firm and constant effort for disarmament and democratization made by the Mexican Government and its representatives in important international forums is an expression of the desire for peace. The fruit of such efforts is the Tlatelolco Treaty which declared Latin America a nuclear-free zone. Mexico has always been at the vanguard of the struggle for general and total disarmament for which its officials have unceasingly struggled in the international conferences. The Mexican people have always had their doors open to those persecuted by tyranny, those seeking peace, and those fleeing violence. They have won the affection of their Latin American brothers, the other peoples of the world, and especially the Panamanian people.

With this feeling of respect, affection, and admiration for the great Mexican nation and for you, President De la Madrid, we welcome you to Panama as the wise and strong big brother, with the wisdom of reason on which you base your aspirations for peace, justice, and freedom.

Delivers Arrival Speech

PA072014 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1659 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Speech by Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid on arrival at Panama's General Omar Torrijos Herrera International Airport -- live]

[Text] Mr President Illueca: I bring cordial and affectionate greetings from the Mexican people to the Panamanian people and Government. The ties that unite our two peoples are ancient and strong.

Panama has a special significance for Latin Americans. It is geographically located at the point where the prominent portions of the American subcontinent meet. It is a permanent point of reference in the union of the Latin American peoples. Therefore, it is not surprising that the Mexicans, along with the other Latin American peoples, have supported and continue to support the Panamanian people's inalienable right over all its territory and Panama's full and sovereign dominion over its canal. In this regard, the Panamanians can be assured of the constant support of the Mexican people and Government.

At this time Latin America has both problems and opportunities. The principal problem is the threat to peace in Central America. If the threat of violence erupts, not only can it unleash a climate that poisons inter-American relations but it can also become a serious obstacle to the development process of the Central American peoples and Latin America as a whole. Nothing useful, nothing good, nothing healthy can be built with force and violence. Violence cannot be invoked to build democracy and liberty. Democracy and liberty require peace.

Mr President Illueca, for this reason Mexico feels particularly proud of its association with Panama, Colombia, and Venezuela in the Contadora Group. It is symbolic that this important Latin American effort for peace is named after the beautiful Panamanian island. We have to defend, strengthen, and preserve peace. I am sure that even despite the recent events where violence reappears with acute characteristics, the political talent of the Central American peoples will be able, on the basis of the good offices of the Contadora Group, to agree on treaties, conventions, and political commitments. The solution of Central American problems depends essentially on the political will of the Central American peoples and governments. That is the right that Mexico defends. That is the right that strengthens the Contadora Group.

The Contadora Group does not hold the solution of the problems in its hands. This solution, I reiterate, is the political and historic responsibility of the Central American peoples and governments. But, of course, the Contadora Group supports this effort for peace. It knows well that the fate of the Central American peoples will affect the fate of the other Latin American peoples. We know well that if violence is unleashed in the Central American area, that violence could threaten the peace and even the sovereignty of neighboring countries.

Mr President Illueca, my visit to Panama continues the fraternal dialogue that I have held with Colombia, Brazil, Argentina, and Venezuela. We have also examined the economic problems that affect our peoples and we have agreed that in the solidarity of the Latin American peoples we can find the mitigation and solution of the crisis through bilateral relations, by unifying our will and action to propose channels for reciprocal cooperation in the economic and commercial fields, and, of course, by strengthening the coordination of our countries' policies to put forth to the developed nations -- particularly the industrialized nations of the American continent -- the need for a new stage in economic cooperation in our continent. This is happening right now.

The recent statements by the U.S. President to the presidents who participated in the project of financial assistance for the Argentine people and Government constitute a commitment that we will assume. This commitment means that the countries of the American continent must make an extraordinary effort with political talent and imagination to prevent the economic crisis affecting the Latin American countries from becoming an additional factor that disturbs the peace and the development of the American continent.

In my talks with you, President Illueca, I hope to benefit from your ever-positive viewpoints as befits the Panamanian people and a Latin American statesman as yourself, who has become prominent in the international sphere. In your work as president of the UN General Assembly, you have taken to the heart of the organization the fundamental positions of the Latin American peoples. President Illueca, thank you v ry much for your cordial welcome and your illustrious words.

Joint Communique Issued

PA072227 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2036 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Mexican-Panamanian joint communique issued in Panama City on 7 April; read by an unidentified official from the Yellow Room at the Palace of the Herons presidential palace live]

[Text] In response to an invitation by Panamanian President Jorge Illueca, Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid made an official visit to Panama on 7 April 1984. During the meeting of the two presidents, Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid was accompanied by the Mexican secretary of foreign relations, the president of the Mexican Senate, and the secretaries of commerce and industrial development, education, and energy, mines, and parastate industry. Panamanian President Illueca was accompanied by the vice president, the foreign minster, and his cabinet members. The meeting was held in an environment of friendship and cordiality that expresses the ties of solidarity between the two countries.

The two presidents exchanged views on regional and international political and economic matters and matters of bilateral interest. President De la Madrid explained to President Illueca the purpose and results of his trips to other Latin American countries. President De la Madrid stressed that in all these countries he could sense a willingness to broaden and strengthen regional cooperation to establish new methods of cooperation that will allow Latin America to present unified positions with regard to the problems of our times. He also mentioned the high spirit of solidarity and open understanding that currently distinguishes relations among the Latin American countries, underscoring his feeling that we are not only experiencing a moment of deep crisis but one of prospects for broad and consistent political planning.

President Illueca thanked the Mexican president for his report and stated that the trip he is concluding in Panama is a valuable contribution to Latin American efforts in the search for formulas with which to solve the problems.

The two presidents carefully examined the situation in Latin America and reached the conclusion that under the current circumstances, characterized by the economic crisis and the process of change, favorable conditions have been created to promote Latin American cooperation toward areas of open understanding and political unity.

These conditions, aside from being an answer to the mutual aspirations for unity, allow for the suggestion of joint positions and the adoption of coordinated actions in view of the problems faced by the region in its international relations insofar as its most pressing political challenges and matters that decisively influence the economic and social development are concerned.

In view of this, the presidents stated that they have a duty to continue strengthening political and economic cooperation through the appropriate Latin American organizations. They reiterated their full support for the Latin American Economic System, SELA, and the Latin American Energy Organization, OLADE, organizations they believe are essential for this cooperation. The presidents also reiterated their decided support for the objectives of economic integration as the main instrument to achieve regional unity.

President Illueca expressed his satisfaction with and recognition of the decision adopted by the Mexican and Venezuelan chiefs of state to extend, for the 4th consecutive year, the energy cooperation program for Central American and Caribbean countries, as established in the San Jose Treaty.

They stressed their belief that strengthening regional solidarity is a very important factor in the efforts to consolidate the Latin American capacity for joint negotiation. The two presidents renewed their support for the results of the Latin American economic conference.

The two presidents also expressed their conviction that the time has come to propose the reestablishment of the dialogue between Latin America and the industrialized nations of the continent. It is necessary to establish a new relationship of economic and political cooperation with a dynamic, balanced, and mutually advantageous plan that will address the interests of the Latin American countries, especially regarding their right to achieve fair and equal social and economic development.

In examining the Central American situation, the presidents agreed that the conflicts and unrest observed in the Central American countries originate from economic, social, and political conditions prevailing in each of these countries and cannot be placed within the framework of the East-West confrontation.

The chiefs of state expressed their concern in the face of increasingly escalated tensions and conflicts in Central America, destabilizing practices, and constant foreign intervention and aggression that endanger international peace and security.

The presidents endorsed their governments' firm determination to continue their efforts within the Contadora Group, together with the Venezuelan and Colombian Governments, to keep the conflict in the area from getting worse, and to create conditions that will ensure for the Central American countries the means to solve the problems affecting them. They stressed that the efforts of the Contadora Group are the Latin American contribution to the solution of an evidently regional conflict.

The presidents noted the importance of the support demonstrated by the international community for the Contadora Group in the search for peace in the area. They deemed it appropriate to recall the UN General Assembly's reiteration of the right of all the Central American countries to live in peace and determine their own future, free of all foreign intervention. They respectfully urged all the Central American governments to adjust their actions to the spirit of the commitments included in the Document of Objectives as a means of smoothing the path of negotiations. They also made a call to all countries with ties or interests in the region to truly demonstrate their willingness to support the efforts of the Contadora Group.

Aware of the serious consequences that the unleashing of a greater conflagration would bring, among these irreparable damage to hemispheric relations, they underscored the urgent need to suspend current actions being carried out that worsen the situation.

Regarding the Action Committee for the Economic and Social Development of Central America, CADESCA, the two chiefs of state stressed its importance as an instrument created specifically for cooperation and channeling of resources toward the area, based on the objectives and priorities determined by the Central American countries without discrimination or conditions of a political nature and as an affirmation of Latin American solidarity with Central America.

The Panamanian president expressed his appreciaton for the support and solidarity that the Mexican Government and people have always given to the Panamanian demands regarding the canal that, together with the help of the other Latin American countries, opened the way for the 1977 canal treaties.

The Mexican president listened attentively to President Illueca's words regarding the advances achieved by Panama in the execution of the canal treaties and once again expressed the support and solidarity that the Mexican Government and people have offered and continue to offer for the demands of the Panamanian people regarding the Panama Canal.

In examining bilateral relations, the two presidents noted the positive development of the ties of cooperation between Mexico and Panama and renewed their decision to strengthen exchanges in the areas of economy, commerce, science, technology, education, and culture as instruments contributing to internal efforts for development. They affirmed the existing broad possibilities for expanding and increasing cooperation in the mentioned areas for the mutual benefit of the Mexican and Panamanian peoples. They expressed their intention to establish a basic science and technology agreement between the two countries that will allow coordination and increased efforts in these fields. They expressed their interest in the upcoming meeting of the mixed commission for education and cultural exchange.

They expressed concern over the deterioration of the world political situation in which tension and conflicts prevail, endangering international peace and security. They cited the need to reestablish political dialogue among the large powers and to find the way for negotiations which will solve their differences and allow them to reach agreements, specifically in the matter of the arms race. The presidents stressed that only by totally respecting the territorial integrity and sovereignty of states and the principles of nonintervention and self-determination of peoples, with an end to the threats and use of force and with a peaceful solution to differences can a balanced and secure international order be achieved. The two presidents reiterated their firm respect for the principles and purpose of the UN Charter, which offers adequate mechanisms for strengthening international cooperation in all areas. They stressed the important role the organization has in maintaining peace as well as in ensuring the full observance of human rights and the elimination of all forms of discrimination.

In warning that the arms race represents a serious danger and threat to world peace, the two chiefs of state expressed their concern for the harmful effects that the arms race has on the efforts of the developing countries to improve the living conditions of their peoples. They expressed the urgent need to stop the arms race and thus prevent the waste of valuable resources that are indispensable in promoting the social and economic progress of these countries.

The presidents also examined the consequences of the international economic crisis on developing countries, especially Latin American countries. They admitted that even though there are signs of recovery in some industrialized countries, this does not ensure reactivation and growth of developing economies. In view of this situation, they stressed the urgent need to restore internal and external conditions for the developing countries to renew their growth and attend to the growing demands of their peoples. They said that for this to be achieved it is necessary to adopt specific measures to stimulate economic and trade recovery as well as efficient international cooperation for development.

The two presidents stressed that because of a significant historic coincidence the two countries currently support the UN General Assembly and the Group of 77 and reiterated their decision to continue promoting, with a coherent and realistic outlook, global negotiations within the framework of the United Nations.

The two presidents ended their meeting stressing the excellent outlook in the various areas of Mexican-Panamanian cooperation, in which communication and political consultation play an important role.

President De la Madrid expressed his appreciation to President Illueca for the demonstrations of friendship expressed by the people and Government of Panama during his stay in the country.

Issued in Panama City on the 7th day of April, 1984.

[Signed] Miguel de la Madrid, President of the United Mexican States, and Jorge Illueca, President of the Republic of Panama

Leaves for Mexico

PA072237 [Editorial Report] Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish at 2145 GMT on 7 April carried live from the General Omar Torrijos Herrera International Airport a ceremony honoring Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid as he concluded a 5-hour visit to Panama. President De la Madrid was greeted by cabinet members and ranking members of the National Defense Forces' General Staff while being accompanied by President Jorge Illueca to the steps of the Mexican Air Force plane that brought him to Panama. President De la Madrid climbed the steps to the aircraft at 2147 GMT and saluted the crowd, which applauded and cheered. At 2152 GMT the presidential plane began moving toward the airstrip to prepare for takeoff on its way to Mexico. The plane took off at approximately 2158 GMT.

NORIEGA ON DE LA MADRID VISIT, MANEUVERS

PA080300 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Text] General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the Panamanian National Defense Forces, has described Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid's visit to Panama as positive and a part of the Contadora Group efforts. General Noriega participated in the luncheon meeting held by Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid and Panamanian President Jorge Illueca at the Palace of the Herons.

Meanwhile, General Noreiga has said that the National Defense Forces will participate only in extraterritorial military maneuvers approved by the Executive Branch.

CONTADORA FOREIGN MINISTERS MEET IN PANAMA

PA062128 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2103 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Caracas, 6 Apr (DPA) -- Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda today announced in Carcacas that the foreign ministers of the Contadora Group will hold a special meeting in Panama City on Sunday.

Venezuelan Foreign Minister [Isidero Morales Paul] told newsmen that the meeting has been called to "review the situation that Central America is currently experiencing and to decide on the courses of action that the Contadora Group will take because Contadora must adapt its actions to the circumstances that continually emerge in the area." "Contadora cannot, however, go beyond what the Central American nations are willing or able to do," he said. "The Contadora Group must not become the scapegoat for the behavior of the region's countries," he immediately noted, adding that the main responsibility for peace in Central America falls on the Central American nations themselves.

Further on Talks

PA081819 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1749 GMT 8 Apr 84

[Text] Panama City, 8 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- The foreign ministers of the "Contadora Group" countries (Panama, Colombia, Venezuela, and Mexico) began a 24-hour meeting here today, according to official sources. The meeting began shortly after midday as soon as Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo arrived. The remaining three ministers: Oyden Ortega (Panama), Bernardo Sepulveda (Mexico), and Isidro Morales Paul (Venezuela) were waiting for Lloreda Caicedo to arrive at a hotel in this city to begin the round of talks. The foreign ministers of the "Contadora Group" will discuss among other topics the regional situation, the recent visit of Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid to Latin America, and the drafting of the recommendations and conclusions that the working commissions of the group must have ready no later than 30 April. These conclusions and recommendations will be the basis of a general peace treaty in Central America.

Bulletin Issued

PA090200 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 0010 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Demetrio Olaciregui report from the Panama Hilton Hotel in Panama City -- live]

[Text] After a 5-hour meeting, the round of consultations of the Contadora Group foreign ministers has ended in Panama City. The group analyzed the Central American crisis and the escalation of military activities threatening peace in Central America. The Central American countries must now take a definitive stance regarding the Contadora option, which firmly calls for the withdrawal of Cuban as well as U.S. military personnel from the area, according to Panamanian Foreign Minister Oyden Ortega.

At the end of the meeting, Ortega also said that it is now time for the Central American countries, as well as the United States and Cuba, to pledge their support to the Contadora Group efforts as the option with the least political and social cost for returning real balance and equilibrium to Central America.

[illegible] the end of the meeting of the four foreign ministers -- Rodrigo Lloreda of Colombia, Bernardo Sepulveda of Mexico, Isidro Morales of Venezuela, Oyden Ortega of Panama -- a news bulletin was issued analyzing the salient points of the Central American crisis. They examined the degree to which there has been fulfillment of the Document of Objectives, ratified in September 1983 by the five Central American governments, and the fulfillment of promises made in the process of negotiation, according to the news bulletin. They noted the need for the governments in the region to adapt their international behavior to the spirit of conciliation indicated in the regulations adopted in January of this year.

The news bulletin also stated that the ministers noted that in the past few weeks there have been signs of deterioration in the regional situation. Above all, they noted the actions of irregular forces, supported and supplied by communications centers located in neighboring countries, which seek to destabilize the region. Sophisticated weapons have been introduced as well as new military methods and dangerous modes of attack, according to the bulletin. Operations are being carried out, such as the mining of ports, which impair the economy, disrupt commerce, and hinder freedom of navigation.

Similarly, the Contadora ministers noted with concern the increasingly open presence of foreign troops and advisers, an escalation of arms build-ups, and the proliferation of weapons and military actions and maneuvers, all of which help to intensify tension and deepen mistrust. For this reason, the ministers considered it indispensable that countries with links to and interests in the region demonstrate with specific deeds their professed support for the Contadora Group and once again emphasized that a conflict of greater proportions would have serious repercussions on the countries in the region and would adversely affect the entire continent.

The news bulletin also stated that regarding the political situation, the ministers kept in mind the political processes that are under way and confirmed their belief that those processes can contribute to internal reconciliation and regional detente to the extent that they provide the proper guarantees for an independent electoral organization and that the effective participation of all political persuasions is ensured.

In the economic and social areas, they referred to the formal establishment and initiation of work of the Action Committee for the Social and Economic Development of Central America, CADESCA, which has opened a useful and effective means of channeling international aid for the internal and integration efforts of the Central American countries, in cooperation and coordination with the economic organizations of the Central American governments themselves.

CONTADORA COMMISSIONS, WORK GROUP END TALKS

PA071413 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1231 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Text] Panama City, 7 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- The three work commissions of the Central American countries and the "technical group of Contadora," tasked with preparing the report for the negotiation of peace treaties for the region, ended five days of work in Panama last night. A Panamanian Foreign Ministry bulletin released at the end of the working day yesterday notes that the three work commissions have prepared a draft which will be presented in a 30 April report to the foreign ministers of Panama, Colombia, Mexico, and Venezuela, members of the "Contadora Group."

The three commissions discussed security, political, and socioeconomic aspects of the region under the counseling of the deputy foreign ministers of the "Contadora Group" (technical committee) and the five Central American countries. "The work achieved during this time permits the announcement of the fulfillment of the working plan established to put forth on the 30th of this month plans that will offer viable solutions to the foreign ministers of the Contadora Group and the five Central American countries for the negotiated resolution of the region's crisis," according to the official communique. It adds that both the "technical group" and the working commissions will meet again in Panama during the week of 23-29 April to pursue their joint endeavor to secure peace in the region.

During the closed-door sessions held in a downtown hotel in this capital during the past few days, the committees discussed the internal democratization of the countries of the area, arms control, the withdrawal of foreign military advisers, and the economic development of the region, according to a diplomatic spokesman.

The creation of the commission was agreed upon in the last document signed by the foreign ministers of the region ("Norms for the Application of the Commitments Acquired in the Document of Objectives") in Panama last 8 January after a meeting with their "Contadora" colleagues. The "Contadora Group," created on 9 January 1983 in the Panamanian island of that name, is searching for peace formulas that will restore political stability to Central America.

COSTA RICA

DC-3 WITH '3 NORTH AMERICANS' FOUND IN JUNGLE

PA071942 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1822 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Excerpts] San Jose, 7 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- An old DC-3 aircraft, which was presumably transporting weapons for the anti-Sandinists, was found completely demolished last night in a dense jungle region more than 150 km from this capital and some 100 km from the Nicaraguan border. The site of the accident, to which access is difficult, is a small hill that rises 700 meters above the surrounding area.

The local authorities have refused to report on the fact, alleging that they know nothing of what happened. Public Security Minister Edmundo Solano said he has no official information. According to reliable sources, the accident occurred at night 10 days ago, and the first to reach the place were "unidentified, armed men." To the inhabitants of the surrounding townships, "those persons" belonged to the opposition Nicaraguan Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE), and the aircraft was taking weapons for the guerrillas led by Eden Pastora, "Commander Cero." "ARDE" spokesmen in this capital, however, denied any relation to the aircraft and its occupants.

Persons at the site of the accident claim that the seven who were aboard, four North Americans and three Nicaraguans, were killed. A newsman for the newspaper LA PRENSA LIBRE, Jose Joaquin Loria, told ACAN-EFE that he was at the site of the accident yesterday and observed near the plane wreckage a common grave where the seven bodies had been buried near the surface and covered with branches. Workers of farms near the area claim that the first persons to arrive took the bodies out of the burning debris and finished burning them before burying them. They added that these persons removed a large quantity of weapons that was aboard the aircraft and that was probably intended for some Nicaraguan rebels.

the peasants, the DC-3 was "the phantom aircraft" that had been overflying a vast border region at night without its being known what it was doing. The authorities had been informed of those night flights, but in view of their limited resources, they had not been able to identify or intercept it. No information was obtained from the U.S. Embassy in this capital on the report that there were four North Americans aboard because of the weekend and because no diplomatic officials were available.

TERRITORIAL WATERS TREATY SIGNED WITH COLOMBIA

PA081258 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2247 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Text] Bogota, 7 Apr (EFE) -- Costa Rican Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez said that Nicaragua is a violent nation that has become a disturbing factor for Central America. Gutierrez, who today returned to his country following a 24-hour visit to Bogota where he and his Colombian colleague Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo signed a treaty delimiting surface and underwater areas, said that the deterioration of the situation in the region is generally due to the conditions of violence experienced in Nicaragua.

He trusts that the efforts for peace being made by the Contadora Group will soon allow normalcy to be restored in Central America, without foreign intervention, which contributes to the tension.

Gutierrez also said that the situations in El Salvador and Guatemala have become obstacles for his country because in the past few months they have been internationalized.

"We have a consolidated democracy and because of this there are no internal problems," Gutierrez said and added that his country will avoid all war activities.

EL SALVADOR

CASE OF SLAIN U.S. NUNS TO BE TRIED IN MAY

PA070211 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2322 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] San Salvador, 6 Apr (ACAN-EFE) — The judge in charge of the case of the U.S. nuns murdered in El Salvador nearly 4 years ago today announced that the trial will begin early next month.

Judge German Rauda Murcia told "ACAN-EFE: by telephone that the Holy Week recess would delay the trial until the first or second week of May. If the date is confirmed, the trial will take place at the same time as the second round of the presidential elections, slated for 6 May but still to be officially confirmed.

U.S. nuns Dorothy Kazel, Maura Elizabeth Clark, Ita Ford, and Joanne Donovan, of the Maryknoll Order, were raped and murdered on 2 December 1980 southeast of San Salvador by five members of the National Guard. The former members of this security corps awaiting trail are Luis Antonio Colindres, Daniel Canales, Francisco Orlando Contreras, Jose Moreno, and Carlos Contreras. They were arrested on 12 February 1982; thus the trial proceedings have extended over 2 years.

ANEP EXECUTIVE EXPECTS CONTINUED U.S. AID

PA071821 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1840 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Interview with Juan Vicente Maldonado, ANEP, National Association of Private Enterprise, executive, by reporter Candida Castillo; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Castillo] The U.S. aid to El Salvador has been reported on extensively, particularly that the United States will stop this aid if ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance] wins the elections. How much will private enterprise be harmed if this aid is stopped?

[Maldonado] We are fully convinced that the United States will not stop its economic aid to El Salvador. The United States has advocated free elections in El Salvador. It would be totally hypocritical and a dirty trick for the United States to push for and support free elections in a country, and then when the people freely express themselves in a truly democratic process, to condition their aid merely because they are not satisfield with the election results. This would be in bad taste and would go against the honest image that the United States has created. For this reason, we are convinced that what little help we have received -- it is really not much, and has been given us little by little -- will continue to be sent to us with the same difficulties we have encountered before.

I would like to point out to the Salvadoran people that the U.S. aid has arrived neither in the amount nor with the speed that our needs have demanded over the past 3 years. We should then ask whether this situation will get worse in the future. It will hardly become more difficult. Fortunately, we have the U.S. President's support. He has backed this aid. As you surely heard, yesterday the U.S. Senate approved $61 million in military aid that the Salvadoran Army so sorely needs.

[Castillo] If the United States withdraws this aid [words indistinct] political programs, what would be the extent of the harm to the private enterprise?

[Maldonado] Should the United States withdraw [words indistinct], private enterprise would not be the only one harmed, but the entire Salvadoran people, because this aid has made it possible for private enterprise to obtain currency for the purchase of raw materials to be used in national production -- for fertilizer and medicine purchases for the people at large. That is to say, all the Salvadoran people would be harmed by such a cutoff of economic aid. May I reiterate, however, that we are convinced that this will not happen.

ARENA'S BERRERA COMMENTS ON U.S. ELECTION STANCE

PA060538 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1839 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Interview with Hugo Barrera, vice president of the Nationalist Republican Alliance, ARENA, by Candida Castillo; date and place not given -- live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Castillo] Mr Barrera, we would like to know your opinion regarding statements made to the media to the effect that if ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance] wins, the United States will automatically suspend its aid to El Salvador.

arrera] *Thank you for giving me the opportunity to respond to those statements.* The gentlemen of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC], specifically Mr Duarte and Rey Prendes, were the ones who made those remarks. The statements are an outright lie. In my opinion, the truth of the matter is that those statements reflect these people's despair in view of their fear of losing the upcoming election. They then resort to all these lies so as to confuse the Salvadoran people.

There is sufficient evidence, and formal statements have been made by U.S. Government representatives which clearly imply that the aid to El Salvador will not be suspended no matter who wins the election.

Duarte's position, which tries to make people believe that if the Salvadoran people exercise democracy by choosing one or another candidate they will lose the U.S. aid, is both illogical and unpatriotic. It seems to me that to promote the idea that if he does not win the aid will be suspended can be considered an act of treason. We must keep in mind that George Shultz was recently in El Salvador and that he stated that the U.S. Government will respect the Salvadoran people's decision. That is a very sensible and democratic position. Harry Shlaudeman, President Reagan's personal representative, was also here 4 or 5 days ago, and he also said that the U.S. Government will respect the Salvadoran people's decision.

[Castillo] Mr Barrera, do you have any special kind of propaganda in mind for this second round of elections?

[Barrera] We believe that the entire publicity campaign has to be changed. The first round was a difficult ideological battle in which traditional propaganda methods were sed to inform the people about who was who on the political scene. In this second ound we have to show our people not how we fight amongst ourselves, or how we bicker with one another, but what we are going to do to fix all those things that the PDC has damaged with its irresponsible attitude.

[Castillo] There have also been reports that say that you have been negotiating with Duarte. Could you explain this?

[Barrera] We do not understand what you mean by negotiations. We have had meetings with them, as we have met many times in the Assembly. We are going to vie for power in the next elections. We have indeed held two meetings, in which we exchanged views on the general aspects of the campaign, but we have reached no agreement with them. I do not think we could reach an agreement because we differ quite a bit on ideology and because we are opponents. We are going to fight our opponents, not make agreements with them.

CCE PRESIDENT ON ELECTIONS, ARMED FORCES

PA081618 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 7 Apr 84 pp 5, 33

[Excerpt] Armando Rodriguez Eguizabal, president of the Central Electoral Council (CCE) yesterday said that the Armed Forces have promised that there will be increased, improved vigilance throughout the country during the coming elections.

Rodriguez confirmed 6 May as the date for the second round of the elections to elect the president and vice president of the Republic. That date is within the 30-day period specified by the law. It was said that it would be too difficult to hold elections before that date.

Rodriguez Eguizabal yesterday morning met with Colonel Adolfo Blandon, Army chief of staff, who told him that the Armed Forces will increase vigilance during the coming elections. They will guarantee the purity of the elections, so that once again the Salvadoran people will respond with the same or perhaps stronger civic spirit and conduct than they showed during the 25 March elections. Rodriguez Eguizabal said that the CCE is already engaged in efforts to make the coming elections more orderly and to allow citizens to vote more easily. However, in order to achieve this we need everyone's cooperation, starting with the central government.

PDC'S DUARTE COMMENTS ON RUNOFF ELECTION

PA061825 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 5 Apr 84 pp 3, 42

[Excerpts] "There is no agreement between the Christian Democratic Party, PDC, and the Nationalist Republican Alliance, ARENA, regarding the second electoral round to be held in May," [PCD presidential candidate] Jose Napoleon Duarte said at a press conference. "The problem is that ARENA believes that the party will gain ground by annulling the voting registries. Right now we should not be thinking of gaining ground but of saving the country. We will decide later whether the Central Electoral Council [CEE] should eliminate the voting registries," Duarte said.

Queried about the behavior of the Armed Forces during the past elections, he said: "We have congratulated the Armed Forces high command and the commands in the different departments for their effective surveillance of cities, roads, and voting places, which was intended to guarantee the citizens free participation in the 25 March elections."

PPS PRESENTS BILL TO ALLOW COALITIONS IN RUNOFF

PA072241 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 6 Apr 84 pp 3, 9

[Excerpts] Salvadoran Popular Party, PPS, officials yesterday reported that talks on possible political coalitions for the second electoral round have already begun. Through its representative to the Legislative Assembly, Genaro Pastore, the PPS has introduced a motion to amend the temporary electoral law in order to allow coalitions during the second electoral round, reportedly set for 6 May. The existing law allows for coalitions only during the first round, but the bill being considered in the assembly would allow them during the second round.

According to PPS leaders yesterday, it is not known which parties are holding talks about possible coalitions. It has been said, however, that a coalition is about to be reached by democratic parties such as Nationalist Republican Alliance, ARENA, National Conciliation Party, PCN, Democratic Action, AD, and the PPS.

In addition, Dr Edgardo Guerra Hinds, a PPS consulting lawyer, noted the need for political coalitions to join parties that have not qualified. Guerra indicated that the PPS yesterday received messages of solidarity for the suggestion made by the party at the assembly that coalitions be allowed during the second electoral round. The lawyer said: "This is a formula that makes sense." He added that if this motion is approved the way will be paved for an electoral triumph of democracy in El Salvador.

Francisco Quinonez (Don Chico) [PPS presidential candidate] has confirmed that talks with other party leaders have already begun for possible coalitions during the second round, and he believes that these coalitions will have to be made in order to strengthen democracy in the country.

ARENA HOLDS COALITION TALKS WITH OTHER PARTIES

PA081911 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 7 Apr 84 pp 4, 9

[Excerpts] A multipartisan commission is studying the possibilities of forming a coalition for the second electoral round. Official spokesmen for the National Conciliation Party (PCN), Nationalist Republican Alliance (ARENA) and Salvadoran Popular Party (PPS) yesterday made this declaration to newsmen who approached party headquarters seeking specific answers to rumors that had spread this week.

Representatives of the political parties that would form the coalition met yesterday at an ARENA office in San Salvador. They are the PCN, PPS, Stable Centrist Republican Party (MERECEN), and ARENA. The Salvadoran Authentic Institutional Party's (PAISA) presence at the meeting was not confirmed.

Regarding persistent rumors that Major Roberto D'Aubuisson would relinquish his presidential candidacy to Francisco Jose Guerrero, an ARENA official spokesman said the rumor had been spread in Guatemalan media since Wednesday, but "we are here without those changes that they want to impose on us from abroad." He added, "We are seeking nationalist solutions. We Salvadorans are able to solve our own affairs."

ANTICOMMUNIST ARMY RELEASES ELECTION COMMUNIQUE

PA061941 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 5 Apr 84 pp 2, 23

[Communique issued by the National Liberation Party, PLN, and the Secret Anticommunist Army, ESA, in San Salvador on 3 April]

[Text] The National Liberation Party, PLN, and its armed branch, the Secret Anticommunist Army, ESA, in order to further the campaign in support of the electoral process, wishes to present to the Salvadoran people the following points:

1. We energetically condemn the representatives of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] and the Democratic Action [AD] for the disregard they showed for the principle of freedom of expression when they forcibly expelled journalists from the Central Electoral Council vote counting headquarters on 27 March. We express our solidarity with the Salvadoran journalists for their courageous struggle in favor of the freedom of the press in El Salvador. We also know who committed the treason against the Salvadoran people by manipulating the electoral process to benefit a specific party. Therefore, we accuse these traitors and Jose Napoleon Duarte of being accomplices of the terrorsts of the FMLN in the murder of journalist Rafael Hasbun by attempting to lay the blame on the anticommunist organizations.

2. The PLN and the ESA emphatically deny the statements made by Msgr Gregorio Rosas Chavez. These statements are unfounded in their attacks against the anticommunist organizations. We remind him that there are members of the communist death squads in his own family. His brother Salomon Rosas Chavez is a leader of the People's Revolutionary Army, ERP, in Morazan. Church attenders can confirm this.

3. We protest the new terrorist offensive unleashed by the FMLN communists to promote a climate of terror and uncertainty among the Salvadoran people prior to the second round of elections.

4. We urge the political parties not to be naive by condemning those organizations that are really struggling to totally wipe out communism. With such an attitude they only play into the hands of the Gringos and the FMLN terrorists. The communists had the opportunity to take part in the elections and they rejected it because the only method they understand is armed struggle.

5. We warn politicians that they are obliged to respect the will of the Salvadoran people in this electoral process because the PLN-ESA will fight government corruption and will expose any corrupt official whom we know that might be appointed to the new cabinet.

6. We urge the Salvadoran people to remain alert in regard to the current political developments and to be aware of the call to defend the nation's sovereignty.

We struggle yesterday, today, tomorrow, and always.

[Signed] Commander Aquiles Baires, secretary general of the PLN and chief of the joint chiefs of staff of the ESA; Commander Jorge Palomo, chief of the military commission; Commander Adolfo Torres, chief of the political committee

ARMY CLAIMS DEATH OF REBEL BRIGADE COMMANDER

Identified as Commander Joya

PA060546 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1355 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Excerpts] San Miguel -- Last evening at approximately 2230 a spokesman of the Army's 3d Infantry Brigade who asked not to be identified reported the identification of the commander of the Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade [BRAZ] who was killed 2 nights ago in Llano de Perez, in the city of Sesori, San Miguel Department. The military spokesman said: We have made a positive identification of the commander. He was Commander Joya, 34 years of age, chief of the 1st Column of Francisco Sanchez Battalion No 3 of the southeastern front of eastern El Salvador.

We repeat: Spokesmen of the 3d Infantry Brigade told us last evening that the member of the BRAZ general staff who was killed by an Army column in Llano de Perez, Sesori, 2 nights ago was Commander Joya, 34 years of age, member or chief of the 1st Column of the Francisco Sanchez Battalion No 3 of the southeastern front of eastern El Salvador, which operates mainly in Jucuaran, Jucuapa, Chinameca, and throughout Usulutan Department. So far it has not been confirmed whether the commander was a Salvadoran or a foreigner.

Background of Commander

PA071928 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 6 Apr 84 pp 2, 6

[Text] San Miguel -- The body of a guerrilla who died Monday night in Sesori has been identified as Carmelo Garcia. It has been said that he was one of the chief terrorists commanders. Garcia was born in Jocoaitique, Morazan Deaprtment. He was 34 years old and the leader of the 1st Column of Francisco Sanchez 3d Battalion from the southeastern front. It has also been said that he was in charge of guerrilla operations in Usulutan Department.

Military reports added that Garcia has been promoted to the post of first commander of the Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade, BRAZ, recently. This brigade operates in several places in the country's eastern area.

According to army intelligence, Commander Garcia was "key" in this area, because he was in charge of receiving the supplies that arrived at the Usulutan coast from Nicaragua, particularly El Espino, Jucuaran, and other places.

The BRAZ is considered an elite group among the terrorists who operate in the area. For this reason, Garcia's death is deemed a severe blow to the guerrillas. According to reports received by the Salvadoran Army, the dead guerrilla had for some time been a section leader in Morazan in 1981, but had been "promoted" to the post of BRAZ first commander for this "merits." In addition, San Miguel military sources have reported that the Army has killed 60 of the enemy forces during the latest clashes in the north of the department.

Venceremos Denies Death

PA060433 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Colonel Domingo Monterrosa has made a fool of himself once again. Monterrosa no longer knows what to do, so he continues inventing victories. He invents fake victories to tell the U.S. advisers. Monterrosa does not know how else to restore his image, which was damaged on 25 March when he was not able to guarantee for the Gringos the development of the electoral farce in 70 percent of the eastern sector of El Salvador, despite the fact that he had been given many battalions.

Now Monterrosa has invented, listen closely, he has invented Commander Joya's death. This is an outright lie. Commander Joya is very much alive and, to prove that this is another lie invented by Monterrosa, in our upcoming broadcasts we will offer an interview with Commander Joya.

Commander Allegedly Interviewed

PA081500 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 8 Apr 84

[Interview with "Commander Joya" by an unidentified reporter; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Colonel Domingo Monterrosa has reported that his forces have killed Commander Joya. What can you tell us about this?

[Joya] Col Domingo Monterrosa has always been a liar. He makes things up. He speaks of Soviet and Cuban advisers. We know that he has U.S. advisers with his 3rd Brigade in San Miguel. He makes up lies to boost his troops' and officers' morale. He makes up lies about victories, but they are lies.

[Reporter] In his press statements Colonel Monterrosa claims that he can prove that you were killed in combat.

[Joya] He claims that he can prove this. I lost my knapsack in one of the clashes. I had some of my belongings in the knapsack. We all remove our knapsacks during combat in order to have more mobility.

[Reporter] One of our forces' victories in that area has been the dispersal of the Paratrooper Battalion and the attack against Ciudad Barrios. Could you explain to us how this maneuver was carried out?

[Joya] Regarding your question about dislodging them from Ciudad Barrios, we attacked four positions. The first one was El Carmen. From there we attacked the coffee processing plant, Cerro Torecillas, and their positions in the cemetery. Our forces dislodged the enemy from these positions. I participated in one of these clashes. We recovered some weapons. We recovered 1 M-60 machine gun and 12 M-16 rifles. That same day we attacked the Paratrooper Battalion, inflicting 60 casualties.

[Reporter] Commander Joya, Col Monterrosa has also said that in clashes between the Cuscatlan Battalion and our forces in Sesori, we lost 70 men. What can you tell us about this?

[Joya] That is not true. He makes up things like saying that I was killed. As I told you, he is a liar. He makes up thing to boost his forces' morale.

[Reporter] To end this interview, Commander Joya, would you like to add anything else?

[Joya] Only greetings to all the peoples of the world, all our men of the Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade, and all our men on all the fighting fronts. We must keep up our spirit in order to continue inflicting defeats on the enemy, like the one we just inflicted on them in the new highway and in Suchitoto. I also want to tell all the Salvadoran people that we must have faith in victory.

Monterrosa on Identification

PA071954 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1743 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Interview with Colonel Domingo Monterrosa, commander of the 3d military zone in San Miguel, by Raul Beltran, date and place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Monterrosa] The guerrillas launched an offensive this week, beginning Monday at 0530 in northern San Miguel Department, specifically near Ciudad Barrios. We managed to ambush a group of guerrillas, and as a result, we seized documents in which they had outlined the attack against our units in Ciudad Barrios. According to reports, they suffered numerous casualties.

[Beltran] Regarding the activities and success of military operations in the eastern region this week, after the attack on Ciudad Barrios by the guerrillas, the clandestine stations Radio Venceremos and Radio Farabundo Marti have said that the commander of a rebel column, who was reportedly killed in Sesori and whom you have identified as Carmelo Garcia Guevara, is still alive. What can you say about this, in view of the official reports that have been issued in this respect?

[Monterrosa] We identified the body with a photograph found in the personal documents this individual was carrying, in addition to the notebook outlining the plan of attack. We compared the picture with the dead man, and in view of the fact that this individual was carrying these personal documents, we announced that we had discovered the body of "Commander Jewel" [Comandante Joya].

As for the casualties suffered by the terrorists, I can tell you -- not only from what we confirmed personally, but also from testimonies of residents of areas near Ciudad Barrios and surrounding areas -- that they were numerous. I estimate that they suffered no less than 60 dead, and an undetermined number of wounded.

[Beltran] As a last question, we would like to bring up a current topic, and that is the electoral process. It is said that the Armed Forces have promised the president of the Central Electoral Council that there will be much more security and guarantees for the second round of elections to be held on 6 May. Other issues that have been given international coverage are the statement of Foreign Minister Fidel Chavez Mena saying that at this moment there are no plans for a coup d'etat, and the U.S. position that the Army does not support any movement of this nature and that the Army is dedicating itself to fighting subversion and to supporting the democratic process. As a military man and one of the most effective commanders in the counterinsurgency struggle, what is your opinion in this regard?

[Monterrosa] Regarding your first question, this not only was a promise made to the Central Electoral Council, it was also a promise to the people. For us, the Salvadoran people are more important. We belong to the Salvadoran people. For this reason I can tell you with much conviction that we have already made efforts. We did it for the first round of elections on 25 March. But we are going to make even greater efforts to satisfy the people's desire to participate in the second round of elections.

I can tell you that we have a common enemy. He has been well identified. Our mission is also clear -- not only to the people -- the political Constitution makes it clear also. This is our objective. We cannot consider things that go against our promises and commitments. Our true commitment is to the people. Therefore I hope that this commitment will become a reality. We are embarking on this democratic process.

REPORTAGE ON GOVERNMENT, REBEL MILITARY ACTIVITY

Rebels Attack Patrol

PA060435 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] We have received the following military information from the Anastasio Aquino Paracentral Front. On 4 April at 0500 on the Pan-American Highway at the Copinol turnoff to San Felipe, San Vicente Department, members of the Luis Adalberto Diaz detachment clashed with soldiers of the 5th Infantry Brigade patrolling the area. Our units inflicted three dead and three wounded on the enemy. We experienced no problems. This information was sent from San Vicente Department by Commander (Camilo Turcios).

Army: FMLN Groups Clash

PA071459 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1800 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Communique issued in San Salvador by the Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA, on 23 March]

[Text] Eight terrorists died yesterday in a clash between a column of the Revolutionary Party of Central American Workers, PRTC, and a column of the People's Revolutionary Army, ERP.

The action occurred in San Jose canton, Nueva Granada jurisdiction in Usulutan Deparment. The reasons for the clash between the two organizations, both of which belong to the FMLN, are unknown. The bodies of the terrorists, six men and two women, were buried near the canton, residents reported.

Army Reports Actions

PA071539 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1800 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Communique issued in San Salvador by the Armed Forces Press Communique, COPREFA, on 23 March]

[Text] Nine FMLN terrorists were killed yesterday when members of the antiterrorist Cacahuatique Battalion surprised extremist columns in the general area of Ocicala in Morazan Department. The Army suffered no casualties during the action.

In addition, it has been reported that a counterinsurgency operation involving three special Armed Forces battalions has been under way north of Morazan Department since last Wesnesday. No contacts have been made with leftist guerrillas, who are scattered in San Miguel, Morazan, and La Union Departments. These guerrillas have tried to regroup in the eastern zone's southern sector, according to intelligence reports.

Some 3,000 men supported by planes and artillery are cooperating in the infantry's movements to clean up the area and to allow the rehabilitation of several villages whose residents have not been able to till the land for more than 3 years, particularly in Jocoaitique, Perquin, San Fernando, Torola, and others. Residents have had to be moved to San Francisco Gotera.

It has been reported that a counterinsurgency operation at Guazapa Hill today continued for the third consecutive day. So far, the units moving along four different routes on the steep slopes of the volcano have succeeded in dismantling three rebel camps. No information has been made available on leftist casualties.

Few contacts have been made with rebels. Effective control, however, has been established along an extensive stretch of the northern trunk highway. In particular, control has been established at the corridor where guerrillas have been destroying pylons in an effort to cut off power to Chalatenango Department and San Salvador Department's northern sector.

Army Redeploys Units

PA071523 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1327 GMT 7 Apr 84

[By Pablo Antonio Ayala]

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 7 Apr (ACAN-EFE) — The Salvadoran Army has in the past few hours redeployed the units that were fighting guerrilla columns this week in the northern part of San Miguel Department and has taken up strategic positions in other parts of the country. Military sources confirmed that 3d Infantry Brigade troops led by Colonel Domingo Monterrosa and other special battalions waged fierce fighting with members of the FMLN in the northern sector of San Miguel, inflicting more than 50 deaths on the rebels while the Army troops sustained approximately 10 dead. The transfer of the troops to areas near seven townships in northern San Miguel near the Honduran border was ordered by Col Monterrosa after the majority of the guerrillas fled the scene of the fighting, the person responsible for the operations told ACAN-EFE.

The 3d Infantry Brigade, based in San Miguel 138 km east of San Salvador and led by Col Monterrosa, has maintaned a "vast and important" sweeping operation in the area since long before the past 25 March presidential elections with the support of the Salvadoran Air Force. However, antiguerrilla activities increased in the past week after a fierce FMLN offensive was launched against Ciudad Barrios (20,000 inhabitants), 150 kilometers northeast of the capital. The rebels had attempted to occupy the urban township, according to reports on both sides.

Col Monterrosa told ACAN-EFE that special units of the Armed Forces have taken up strategic positions in townships of the northern Department of Morazan, where the "Cacahuatique" Battalion killed nine guerrillas during an armed clash near Osicala, 180 km east of the capital. Similar actions have been carried out by government troops in the areas of conflict in the Departments of San Vicente, Cuscatlan, Cabanas, La Union, Chalatenango, and San Salvador, as part of the "patrolling operations" begun one month ago.

The FMLN sustained 19 dead in a clash with the Army in Nueva Concepcion (Chalatenango), 67 km northwest of San Salvador. The Army actions against the FMLN in the northern part of San Miguel and in other parts of the country have enabled the 6th Brigade to continue its "Pacification Operation for Usulutan," which was launched 10 months ago and which is seeking to rebuild with a civic-military plan the projects and services destroyed by the violent actions.

FMLN Claims New Victory

PA080154 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 8 Apr 84

[Text] FMLN forces have scored another great victory in the central sector of the country over the puppet forces of imperialist intervention. According to information received from the Modesto Ramirez Central Front, on 6 April the group of battalions known as Felipe Pena Mendoza carried out a military maneuver called "Commander Ana Maria, We Swear To Win," consisting of the dismembering and annihilation of a Mildet 5 company on the road from San Martin to Suchitoto. This successful operation's objective was to disorganize the enemy offensive launched by the forces of the dictatorship against heroic Guazapa Hill, where five battalions trained by the U.S. advisors are operating.

Our forces began this military maneuver at 0530 on 6 April at the time when three battalions of the 1st Brigade of Mildet 5, accompanied by an artillery company, headed south from Suchitoto to continue the offensive east of Guazapa Hill. Fighting extended from the Comatepe Hill up to La Campana Hill in a range of operations that covered 4 km. Our units completely broke up the formation of the enemy forces and surrounded the Mildet 5 troops. The following are preliminary results of these operations, the first information received by Radio Venceremos on our forces' victory on the road from San Martin to Suchitoto: Army casualties include 30 dead and over 35 wounded. Our forces captured eight prisoners. In addition, our forces seized from the puppet army the following war materiel: 35 U.S. M-16 rifles, 1 90-mm cannon, 2 M-60 machine guns, 1 M-79 grenade launcher, and 4 (PRT-67) transmitters.

Other information received from the combat site reveals that the enemy could not react to the driving force of our revolutionary units. Today, Saturday, intense bombing is taking place on the eastern sector of Guazapa Hill.

Revolution or death, we will win! [Signed] Commander Salvador Guerra, chief of the group of battalions Commander Felipe Pena Mendoza.

Up to the minute reports received from the central front reveal that the number of wounded soldiers is approximately 100. This is the latest information received on the victory of our forces on the road from San Martin to Suchitoto. Figures given so far are not final, however, as we await a final report on the results of this new victory of our revolutionary army, of our Salvadoran people, against an Army equipped, trained, and directed by U.S. imperialism.

Army Cited on Casualties

PA081940 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1843 GMT 8 Apr 84

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 8 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- The Salvadoran Army and guerrillas have engaged in fierce clashes in the central and eastern part of the country resulting in the death of tens of soldiers over the past few hours. The Armed Forces Press Committee (COPREFA) confirmed last night the death of 22 soldiers, including 2 officers, during a guerrilla ambush in the central Department of Cuscatlan. The clash occurred in the Quebrada Honda village near Las Guaras Bridge on the highway between San Martin and Suchitoto, a region that is close to one of the most important guerrilla bastions in Guazapa Hill.

COPREFA reported that the guerrilla ambush occurred when the soliders were patrolling as part of the counterinsurgency operation launched by the Armed Forces in the north central part of the country. COPREFA reported that there was an undetermined number of casualties among the rebels.

Meanwhile, official sources today reported that a private aircraft was involved in an accident last night in Las Tinieblas Hill, jurisdiction of Jayaque, Department of La Libertad, in which all on board, including five men and two children, were killed.

GUATEMALA

SALVADORAN FOREIGN MINISTER ON OFFICIAL VISIT

PA081755 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Salvadoran Foreign Minister Fidel Chavez Mena, who is on an official goodwill visit to Guatemala, today said in Guatemala City that the U.S. economic and military aid to El Salvador is vital to his country. Chavez Mena, who met with Head of State General Oscar Mejia Victores and today will meet with Guatemalan Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade, said that Guatemala and El Salvador are working together in harmony and that his visit is an effort to improve the relations between the two countries.

Regarding Salvadoran domestic policy, Chavez Mena said that a bipartisan committee composed of members of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] from the moderate left and the Nationalist Republican Alliance, ARENA, from the right, will analyze logistics for the second elections round to be held 6 May. ARENA and the PDC won the highest number of votes during the 25 March elections, but neither of the two parties attained an absolute majority. It was clear, however, that the PDC predominated by achieving 43 percent of all votes cast.

Chavez Mena also reported that Central American foreign ministers will meet with those of the Contadora Group in Panama on 30 April to continue negotiations aimed at finding adequate solutions for the regional problems. Chavez Mena also said that the presence of Soviet vessels in Central American and Caribbean waters does not in the least help peace in the region, and was of the opinion that the presence of U.S. vessels serves as a deterrent.

HONDURAS

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCED

PA071630 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Communiques released by the Honduran Armed Forces Public Relations Directorate dated 6 April, place not given -- titles as heard]

[Text] The Armed Forces Command has confirmed the following appointments today:

1. DEM [Diplomado de Estado Mayor] Infantry Colonel Efrain Elisondro Gonzalez Munoz, chief of the joint staff.

2. DEM Infantry Colonel Diego Arturo Landa Celano, Armed Forces inspector.

3. DEM Infantry Colonel Guillermo [name indistinct], Army general commander.

4. Air Force Colonel Francisco Zepeda Andino, Honduran Air Force general commander.

5. Air Force Colonel Carlos Aguirre Corrales, Air Force chief of staff.

6. DEM Infantry Colonel Roberto Martinez Avila, general commander of the Public Security Forces.

7. DEM Infantry Colonel (Cornelio Velasquez), chief of the general staff of the Public Security Forces.

8. DEM Infantry Colonel Humberto Regalado Hernandez, commander of the Naval Force.

9. Frigate Captain Cristobal Cano, chief of staff of the Naval Force.

10. Aviation Colonel (Jose Sierra Hernandez), paymaster general.

11. DEM Infantry Colonel Manuel Enrique Suarez Benavides, Armed Forces general auditor.

12. DEM Infantry Colonel Rony H. Martinez, commander of the 101st Infantry Brigade.

13. DEM Infantry Colonel Hector Ventura Pineda, commander of the 105th Infantry Brigade.

14. DEM Infantry Colonel Alvarado Castro Palma, commander of the 110th Infantry Brigade.

15. DEM Infantry Colonel Omar Antonio Zelaya, command and general staff school directo

16. DEM Infantry Lieutenant Colonel Alvaro Antonio Romero Salgado, director of the officers Registration School.

17. DEM Artillery Colonel Hector Aplicano Molina, chief of the Logistics Support Command.

18. DEM Lieutenant Colonel (Pedro Emilio Vanegas), manager of the Military [word indistinct] Institute.

The Armed Forces Public Relations Directorate announces that effective 6 April 1984, in accordance with military laws and regulations, the following officers have retired:

1. DEM Infantry Colonel Amilcar Zelaya Rodriguez

2. DEM Air Force Colonel Domingo Antonio Alvarez Cruz

3. DEM Infantry Colonel Jose Matias Hernandez

4. DEM Infantry Colonel Jose (Cristobal Diaz Garcia)

5. DEM Engineering Colonel Mario Flores

6. DEM Infantry Lieutenant Colonel Juan Segovia

7. DEM Infantry Lieutenant Colonel (Roberto Gomez Dominguez)

8. DEM Infantry Lieutenant Colonel Arguimidez (Economo) Torres

The Armed Forces Public Relations Directorate announces that effective today, the appointment of the following officers as defense attaches has been requested through the appropriate channels:

1. United States: Brigadier General Marco Antonio Rosales Abella

2. Chile: Brigadier General Jose A. Bueso Rosa

3. Peru: Brigadier General Daniel Bali Castillo

4. Nationalist China: Brigadier General Ruben H. Montoya Ramirez

5. France and Israel: DEM Infantry General Rodolfo Bonilla Blanco

6. Panama: DEM Infantry Colonel Astor Guillermo Fiallos Garcia

7. Mexico: DEM Infantry Colonel Esteban Elvir

8. Guatemala: DEM Infantry Colonel Rigoberto Regalado Lara

[illegible]REIGN SECRETARIAT APPOINTS NEW AMBASSADORS

PA081740 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 5 Apr 84 p 2

[Text] Through its Foreign Secretariat, the Honduran Government has officially announced the appointments and transfers of 10 ambassadors in order to make the Honduran foreign service more dynamic in the field of diplomatic relations in a policy of rapprochement and friendship with all friendly countries. The new diplomatic representatives who have assumed the offices of foreign service are: Rafael Leiva Vivas, ambassador to France, who has occupied a similar post in Chile, the Dominican Republic, and Peru.

Ivan Romero Martinez will assume office as Honduran ambassador to Spain. He is former minister counselor in Canada, former alternate ambassador to the OAS in Washington, and former representative to UN international organizations in Geneva.

In addition, Colonel Mario Maldonado Munoz, retired, will assume office as ambassador to UN international organizations at Geneva. Maldonado has been adviser to the Foreign Secretariat and member of the Sovereignty and Borders Committee. He was also executive director of the National Agricultural Institute and military attache at the Honduran Embassy in Washington.

Guillermo Boquin will assume office as ambassador to Panama. He is former Honduran consul general at Rio de Janeiro and has occupied important posts in the Higher Council of Economic Planning, the Pan-American Health Organization, and the WHO.

Carlos Martinez Castillo will assume office as ambassador to Peru. He was physician-surgeon in charge of a school-hospital for many years. He has also participated in [illegible]rious scientific events in the country and abroad.

Colonel Carlos Villanueva Doblado, retired, will occupy the post of ambassador to Uruguay. He occupied similar posts in Brazil and Argentina. In addition, he occupied important positions in the Honduran Armed Forces.

Max Velasquez Diaz will transfer to the United Kingdom as ambassador, while Edgardo Dumas Rodriquez has been appointed ambassador to Italy. Finally, Julio Antonio Rendon has been appointed ambassador to Venezuela, and Roberto Ramos Bustos has been appointed ambassador to Argentina.

Tegucigalpa, 4 April 1984

Information and Press Directorate

Honduran Foreign Secretariat

PA BARNICA VISITS SPAIN, MEETS GONZALEZ

For Madrid reportage on Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Edgardo Paz Barnica's visit to Spain, including his talks with Spanish Prime Minister Filipe Gonzalez and Foreign Minister Fernando Moran on the situation in Central America and recent developments in Honduras, see the Spain section of the 9 April Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

NICARAGUA

DANIEL ORTEGA, RAMIREZ DISCUSS U.S., HONDURAS

PA070337 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0045 GMT 7 Apr 84

["Face the People" program, with Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction; junta member Sergio Ramirez Mercado; and other government and FSLN officials, at the Carlos Fonseca Amador Blind People's Rehabilitation Center in Managua -- live]

[Excerpts] [Ortega] Yesterday we spoke with one -- no, with two -- of the U.S. representatives. Mr Motley and Mr Shalaudeman, the new special ambassador appointed by President Reagan, were there. Actually, as we spoke, it was said that a political resolution must be found to the problems of Central America. At that very minute the President of the United States was making a statement defending the quote right unquote to continue attacking -- pressuring, as he says -- Nicaragua. To pressure Nicaragua means to make it bleed, to try to destroy this entire effort that has brought thousands of Nicaraguans into the task of reconstruction and the building of the new society. Right now, this week, at this very moment, we are facing the largest military offensive that the U.S. Government has launched against Nicaragua. It has deployed thousands of counterrevolutionaries from Honduras to supplement the activities of these counterrevolutionaries, who are organized following the pattern of the U.S. regular forces, and who are supplied by helicopter.

Simultaneously, the U.S. Senate has just approved $21 million to continue committing abuses, crimes, and terrorism against the Nicaraguan people. This counterrevolutionary action led and promoted by the United States, this military offensive that the United States is currently launching against Nicaragua -- and which includes more than 8,000 counterrevolutionaries, and is taking place particularly in Nueva Segovia, Jinotega, Zelaya Norte, and which also involves counterrevolutionary task forces from southern Rio San Juan Department that arrive from Costa Rica, where the United States has also set up base camps to attack Nicaragua -- its accompanied by the mining of Nicaraguan ports.

They have been mining Nicaraguan ports, as you must know by radio reports. They have been mining the Port of El Bluff, the Port of Corinto, and Puerto Sandino. The minings have damaged seven ships that were transporting cargo to Nicaragua, to seven foreign vessels from different countries. They have prompted other vessels to turn away from Nicaragua and unload their cargo in Port Caldera, Costa Rica. Despite the attacks it has been possible to increase the movement of ships. The terrorist mining of Nicaraguan ports, which has been carried out by experts of the U.S. Armed Forces from U.S. vessels that are anchored off our coasts, has had some effect on the ships that transport cargo to and from Nicaragua. The action is an attempt to blockade Nicaragua.

So far, most ships that had planned to enter Nicaraguan ports have done so. However, some ships have been scared away and have unloaded their cargo at Port Caldera. Other ships that were supposed to bring products from other countries have not dared load because they fear the mines. Most ships have entered and continue to enter thanks to the effort that is being made here in Nicaragua through our defensive means. We have even used fishing boats to scan the area and guarantee the ships' entries and exits.

We are still lacking in the proper defense of our ports. In view of this, some countries of the international community have made statements condemning the mining of the ports. This condemnation was summarized in the stand taken by the UN Security Council. Thirteen of the fifteen member nations of the Security Council condemned these terrorist actions that the United States is launching against the Nicaraguan people. The United Kingdom abstained from voting, and the United States of course voted against the Nicaraguan proposal that received the support of 13 countries, of most of the nations that represent the international community on the Security Council.

In addition to this, two reports have said that some nations, including France and Sweden, have condemned these actions. The possibility exists that some countries will offer resources to Nicaragua to face this problem of the mines. We are speaking about minesweepers. These are special instruments to counter this type of terrorist action. Nicaragua is quite willing to accept support of that nature from the country or countries that offer it. We have openly requested such help, and we are willing to accept that help and solidarity.

We mention all this because I think that it is necessary to stress how difficult the situation that the Nicaraguan people are experiencing is.

We are facing a confrontation with a great power, the United States, which has declared war on us, which is launching thousands of counterrevolutionaries who are supplied by air, which is staging air and sea attacks, and which openly defends its terrorist policy. This is the worst thing.

Naturally, this demands more sacrifices and represents greater limitations on the Nicaraguan people. For example, when this problem of the mines is present, no ship carrying spare parts, medicine, or food, can come in, but must turn back to unload at Port Caledra. This in itself is a delay that immediately hurts the supplying of the Nicaraguan people and the nation's production.

We then see that we are facing a serious and difficult situation. We have made this clear and the world also understands this. A big international protest has arisen against this criminal policy of the U.S. Government.

Here we are, meeting amid a relative calm. We cannot be fully at ease because we know we are facing such a situation and because we know that in order to allow us to be here talking and in order to allow all of you to carry out your jobs here are companeros who are defending the revolution at the front line. This includes the militias, the reservists, the patriotic military service, the border forces, and the regular troops. Thousands of men, of Nicaraguans, are currently deployed in all directions facing and defeating the counterrevolution.

We know that the counterrevolution has no possibility of winning because it is facing a people who are willing to defend their revolution. However, the actions demand more sacrifice from the Nicaraguan people. They are obstructing the people's efforts. This center for the blind is an example of the people's efforts. They would like to destroy all this and have us return to a past in which the only goal was to oppress, exploit, alienate, ignore, and trample the humble working people. In their effort to return to the past, they are drawing more blood from and imposing more sacrifices on the Nicaraguan people.

Therefore, this evening we wanted to emphasize that situation. The U.S. Government's policy of increasing its aggression on the Nicaraguan people is increasingly open. The international community's condemnation of the U.S. conduct is also increasingly open.

Well companeros, let us go on to chat with you a little after this speech that we have just made on the situation that Nicaragua is experiencing. I want to give you the opportunity to talk about anything that comes to mind. We are all here to talk with you.

[Muniz] My name is Julio Cesar Muniz. How do you explain the fact that Reagan defends the elections in El Salvador, describing them as democratic, yet he totally condemns our elections? Thank you. [applause]

[Ramirez] Companeros, my name is Sergio Ramirez, member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction. Regarding your question about our elections, I would like to say first of all that the U.S. Government and the enemies of this revolution are slandering these elections before they are even held. This shows us their real intentions, when they can talk about an election that has not been held and that we are just beginning to organize. The Nicaraguan people, the revolutionary government, and the electoral council, which has already been appointed, will perform the task of organizing the elections. We are going to do this with the same responsibility with which we have carried out all the tasks of the revolution. It is a very big job, which we have to tackle despite the situation of war we are experiencing and despite the fact that there are thousands and thousands of Nicaraguans involved in the defense of the homeland on the border and war fronts or involved in production or harvesting the crops. Aside from this we are also going to have to use thousands of Nicaraguans to help with the electoral process. These elections will not be a farce like those held in other countries. They will not be a farce because first of all we are not holding elections to please anyone, but because from the very beginning it was a commitment of the revolution to the people of Nicaragua.

The United States and those who oppose this revolution, such as the counterrevolutionaries, are not interested in these elections. They are interested in war; they are interested in destroying our power lines, bridges, and fuel dumps; they are interested in providing the counterrevolutionaries with millions of dollars so they can invade the country. This is how they believe they can destroy the revolution. They don't feel that the elections will serve their purpose and therefore they are trying to annul them, and that is why they are saying that one should not participate in the elections and are asking the people not to vote.

To abstain from voting under the circumstances we are experiencing here in Nicaragua is a way of supporting the counterrevolution and the Somozists. [applause]

[Cruz Munoz] Good evening, Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra. I come from La Rosita mine in northern Zelaya. My name is Nicolas Cruz Munoz, and I have the following question. The situation on the Atlantic coast is a critical one, as is the situation throughout Nicaragua. What measures are being taken, since the counterrevolutionary bands are continuing to attack, and production has dropped? This is a problem, and the people can't work.

[Ortega] I am Companero Ortega. Our companero speaks the truth regarding the situation in the northern Atlantic area of Nicaragua. That area is experiencing the activities of the counterrevolution, that is, a U.S. activity. I believe that we should be very clear and avoid confusion by saying that when we use the word counterrevolution we must think of the United States. The counterrevolution exists in the measure that the U.S. Government wants a counterrevolution. If the U.S. Government were not interested in a counterrevolution, then we would have no counterrevolution because it is the United States that has armed and paid the counterrevolution. Today the U.S. Senate approved $21 million to continue inflicting damage on the Nicaraguan people, to continue killing the Nicaraguan people and damaging the Nicaraguan people's economy.

ly recently these men, trained by the United States -- the counterrevolutionaries and criminals -- came to the Bonanza mine area near the (Izalco) Dam and destroyed a power plant. By doing this they are affecting gold production. In affecting gold production they are demaging the country as a whole. They are not hurting a specific person, because we don't have a sole owner or a rich society that owns those mines. The mines were nationalized with the revolution, and they now belong to the Nicaraguan people. Any profits from the exploitation of that gold are profits that are immediately used to build schools, roads, health centers, and so forth. We use those profits for the benefit of the Nicaraguan people and not to make the owners of a mine, the local company, or some foreign company rich, as was the case in the past. Therefore, this terrorist action of the U.S. Government that has sent those men to blow up the power plant at the Bonanza mine only affects the workers of the area. And who are the workers of the area? Nicaraguan companeros, many of Miskito origin, and others who have moved to the Nicaraguan Atlantic area and work and live thanks to the jobs provided by the mines.

By attempting to paralyze the mines they are trying to paralyze production, and by doing this they affect the economy. They are also trying to leave the companeros who are miners without a job, all those miners in Bonanza, La Rosita, Siuna, and so forth. We are faced with this counterrevolutionary activity that also involves destroying bridges, the work of the cooperatives, health centers, schools, and the CDI's [Child Development Centers]. This is the kind of activity developed by those task forces, those counterrevolutionary bands that the U.S. Administration is sending us.

What can the Nicaraguan people do in the face of this aggression from a power called the United States? Well, we defend ourselves; we defend ourselves with our Sandinist People's Army forces, with the reserve battalions, with the militias, with the ompaneros who are members of the patriotic military service. We are forced to defend ourselves, and the best defense is an organized people and militia. In that area we have organized militiamen who are constantly fighting with the counterrevolutionaries. They are peasants who are producing, and at the same time they are organized in the militia. Therefore, our best weapon to face the counterrevolutionary activities is the people's armed organization. Of course this is a struggle that we cannot win in a day. It is a difficult and hard struggle, as our companero just said, and we are faced with it together with the difficulties that the struggle represents in that area.

As you know, the northern Atlantic area of Nicaragua -- Puerto Cabezas, the mines, and so forth -- was an area that was completely isolated in the past. With the triumph of the revolution we made a big effort to join the Pacific and the Atlantic by means of a road. Now that road has been completed, and it was built in record time. The Nicaraguan people saw that the revolution built a road that was never built during the 50 years of Somozist dictatorship -- a road never built during the 50 years that the dictatorship had the support of the U.S. Government -- and now the U.S. Administration is trying to destroy what we have built in these 4 years to benefit the residents of the Nicaraguan Atlantic coast. The counterrevolution is there trying to destroy the bridges on that road, attacking the cooperatives and health centers, sowing terror among the residents of the area. But we have the people organized in the militia, reserves, and Army to face that counterrevolutionary activity.

[Rosales] My name is Hector Rosales. I heard Sergio Ramirez say that some people -- I suppose he refers to the contras -- did not want to participate in the elections. I ask myself: Would the elections be held if only two opposition parties competed against the Sandinist party, which probably has the majority? Would the election be would appreciate an answer.

[Ramirez] Concerning your question about the elections, I was just saying that the counterrevolution uses the topic of electoral absenteeism as a weapon. They talk about absenteeism because they say there are no guarantees for the elections. I also said that those are just pretexts. Some parties are very small; all they have is a letterhead, a label. I would like to tell you that we are going to need thousands of people to help organize the polls. All the parties will also have to post at least one representative at each poll. Some parties will have to post 6,000 overseers at the polls. They need to have a person at each poll in order to defend the interests of their parties.

Some parties are somewhat intimidated because to post 6,000 people at the polls throughout Nicaragua is a difficult task. We want to tell the smaller parties that the electoral law leaves a door open: that a party can participate in some regions only and is not obliged to participate in all of Nicaragua. In the lists of deputies they can register only some names. They are not obliged to put down all the names. Also, those parties that feel they lack the financial resources to promote their candidates for deputy find in the electoral law a stipulation that says that the revolutionary state will finance the participation of those parties. We are approving special funds in the national budget that we will offer to all the political parties in order that their campaigns will be financed by the state. It will be hard to find an excuse to say that the conditions are not adequate for the elections.

We have spoken to foreign visitors who have told us that this electoral law is much better than the electoral law of many other countries. We are very proud of having a good electoral law in Nicaragua, because you know what elections were like in Somoza's times.

In conclusion, I want to say that the elections will be held with whatever number of political parties is available. If there are 10, fine. There could be 20. There is absolute freedom for the open participation of all the parties. I want to stress that the 4 November elections will be held no matter what, and with the number of political parties that present themselves for these elections. [applause]

[Unidentified questioner] How is the revolutionary government benefitted or harmed by the sudden changes that have taken place in the High Command of the Honduran Armed Forces, meaning Alvarez and those who resigned with him? [applause]

[Ortega] Regarding the companero's question on our opinion of the changes in Honduras, we must say that it has been clearly demonstrated that the United States' man in Honduras -- his name is Gustavo Alvarez -- had been appointed chief of the Honduran Army in violation of the Honduran Army promotion system. This man Alvarez got full support from the United States to carry out a policy of aggression against the peoples of El Salvador and Nicaragua and to enable the installation of U.S. military bases in Honduras. Well, a crisis occurred.

The United States created a crisis with its policy in Honduras. Instead of bringing stability to Honduras they brought instability, and the fact that this man Alvarez was removed from his position is proof of the crisis that the United States provoked.

Alvarez was invited to visit the United States on many occasions. He was decorated in several countries. The United States got these decorations for him in several Latin American countries. He was introduced as a champion for freedom and against communism, and today we see the result of all this. What they did was provoke a crisis. This shows that the United States' aggressive, military, interventionist policy in Central America only creates a crisis. It causes death, terrorism, sabotage, and a crisis like the one they caused in Honduras.

Meanwhile, Nicaragua has expressed its willingness to hold a dialogue with the Honduran Government. Nicaragua is willing to hold a dialogue with the new Army commanders. We don't want, nor have we ever wanted, war with Honduras. We are sure that the Honduran people and Army don't want a war with Nicaragua. It is the United States that wants war between the Honduran Army and Nicaragua.

We are aware of the danger that this U.S. policy represents, this policy that wants to confront brother peoples, in this case Central American peoples. Then what would be the most practical solution? Well, that the Honduran president and the Army High Command once again be told about the Nicaraguan stance. Which stance? That we are willing to meet at any time and place -- in Tegucigalpa or Managua -- anywhere with the Honduran president and the Army High Command so that together we may search for solutions to the problems that the United States has created in Central America. That is the Nicaraguan stance. Any other stance would be against the Honduran people and Army, and against peace in the Central American region. [applause]

[Ortega] Many Latin American and European countries have expressed opposition to the aggressive U.S. policy. The U.S. bishops have also expressed opposition to that aggressive U.S. policy. Here in Nicaragua, the working people who are integrated into the revolutionary transformations also know where the aggression comes from. They know perfectly well that the problem is not that we Nicaraguans are killing each other, as some say. There are some gentlemen who really act as spokesmen of the counterrevolution, saying that this is an internal problem and that we Nicaraguans are killing each other. We Nicaraguans are not killing each other. Those criminal guardsmen and the traitors are not Nicaraguans. They are mercenaries at the service of the U.S. Government who are killing the people. They are killing workers, children, and senior citizens, and they are destroying cooperatives, health centers, CDI's [Child Development Centers], machinery, and transportation means. They are trying to destroy the economy.

There are some people in this country who are really blind. They are really blind. You companeros are not blind. You have shown this in your participation here. You have vision problems but you are not blind. Those other people have good eyes but they are blind to reality. There are people who have very good eyesight and who have a lot of money or who belong to the Catholic Church hierarchy but they don't want to see reality. They view the aggression as a result of a confrontation between Nicaraguans. What do they say? They say that what is needed here is a dialogue, that we should hold a dialogue with those criminals. Those who say that a dialogue is needed are incapable of holding a dialogue with the Nicaraguan people. Those who promote that policy say that a dialogue is needed here. They insinuate that the Nicaraguan people should hold a dialogue with the ciminals who are killing them. Those gentlemen who make this kind of proposal and who belong to some political parties that are known for their reactionary and sellout positions and who belong to the Catholic Church hierarchy are incapable of holding a dialogue with the Nicaraguan people. They are incapable of communicating with the people but yet they are demanding that we hold a dialogue with those criminals.

Those people are really blind. They are blind due to opportunism or because they have warped minds inherited from the Somozist past and have been unable to change or because they have a guilty conscience or they are blind because they are receiving dollars from the U.S. Government.

The Nicaraguan people are aware and organized. They have sufficient fortitude to face and defeat these attacks. As an important part of the Nicaraguan people, you have shown tonight the concerns of the people. You have shown the new awareness that the Nicaraguan people are developing.

BARRICADA: CHEYSSON OFFERS AID IN CLEARING MINES

PA061627 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 5 Apr 84 p 5

["Text" of letter from French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson to Colombian President Belisario Betancur; date not given]

[Text] Mr President, in view of the exceptional and marvelous welcome that you gave me in Bogota and the previous messages that you were so kind to send me, I allow myself, in concurrence with President Mitterrand, to personally discuss a topic that we believe is of the greatest importance for the maintenance of peace in Central America and that therefore greatly concerns us and must likewise concern the man, the president, who handles the Contadora action: I mean the obstacles to free navigation as a result of the blocking of three Nicaraguan locations. This is without a doubt a matter of a blockade set up in peacetime against a small country. This poses a grave problem of political ethics. One feels amazed not only at the level of international relations but also at the moral level, and one must view with horror that the action of mining the Nicaraguan ports signifies that Nicaraguan women, children, and the underprivileged are going to be deprived of the supplies and medicine provided by international humanitarian assistance [several shipments, some of which were coming from Europe, have been canceled or diverted). It is also distressing because we are witnessing the transition to a new phase in the escalation of clandestine military operations supported from abroad against Nicaragua. Such an unfortunate event directly attacks the efforts carried out by the Contadora Group, which have been achieved thanks to your authority, and to the success of which you have linked your name.

As I insisted last summer when you were so kind as to meet with me, France, a distant power, does not wish to directly intervene in Central America. But it is willing -- as it has already shown -- to support the initiatives of the region's countries when those initiatives are directed towards peace and justice. I also commit the great indiscretion of addressing you and requesting your advice: As president of one of the countries that has been most active in the search for peace in the Central American region, promoter of the Contadora Group, would you be willing, alone or with the friendly chiefs of state, to solemly and publicly denounce the obstacles to freedom of movement, the attack on common law constituted by the blocakde of a country that is not in a state of extreme belligerency? We are not trying to make an accusation against another country, and none would surely dare to claim responsibility for such actions. But a call of this nature to the international community -- especially to the United Nations, American countries such as Canada and the United States, European countries such as Spain, Sweden, and the 10 members of the European Community -- could recommend that measures be rapidly taken and actions be carried out to reestablish and to maintain free access to all Nicaraguan ports.

France cannot remain deaf to the Managua government's demands. But it does not want to intervene by itself, and on the basis of this request it would be willing, jointly with one or several friendly European powers, to contribute to the operations to sweep the mines, for example beginning with the Port of Corinto, whose blockade would submit the Nicaraguan people to great suffering. Its intervention would naturally be of a purely humanitarian nature. As I said at the beginning of the letter, Mr President, it is a matter of great concern. We might be reproached for our silence and instead, our call could not be opposed without the opponents assuming part of the responsibility for an unjustifiable blockade. With the hope that you will be so kind as to excuse me for the indiscretion that I am committing in directly addressing you, and that you will be so good as to personally make known to me your opinion, please accept, Mr President, the expressions of my highest esteem.

CASTRO CITED ON NICARAGUAN PORT MININGS

PA072016 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Text] Cuban leader Fidel Castro has strongly condemned the mining of Nicaraguan ports and has charged that the U.S. Government is responsible for these actions. This was said by the Cuban President during an exclusive interview with the most important French television channel. The Cuban revolutionary leader said that the mines are very modern and difficult to handle by nonexperts.

The Cuban leader said that Washington uses the Somozist bands as a cover to hide its activities. We have indications, Fidel Castro stated, that the mines are being placed by CIA commandos.

After cautioning that this is an effort to establish a de facto military blockade against Nicaragua, the Cuban chief of state said that these actions are very serious and that the international community should strongly condemn them.

AFP Expands on Statement

PA061728 Paris AFP in Spanish 1449 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Paris, 6 Apr (AFP) -- Cuban President Fidel Castro said here today that the mining of the principal Nicarguan ports is a "new form of aggression" used in the past few weeks against Nicaragua and tacitly blamed the United States for these actions. Castro made this statement during an interview for Channel 1 of French Television, broadcast in the early afternoon in France.

"These mines are very sophisticated U.S.-made weapons. The mercenary bands are only used as a screen, but we have reason to believe that they are being placed by CIA teams, who are also using CIA ships to carry out the mining of the ports," Castro said.

After warning about the seriousness of this escalation, which is definitely a military blockade against Nicaragua to prevent the arrival of raw material, fuel, medicines, and food, the "maximum leader" of the Cuban revolution added:

"This is a very serious and inconceivable action in times of peace, which -- in my opinion -- warrants a very strong protest and condemnation from the international community."

In replying to his interviewer, Castro stressed that both Nicaragua and the Salvadoran revolutionary movement are in favor of a negotiated political solution, "to which the U.S. Government is obstinately opposed."

In replying to another question, he said that the political changes in Argentina have logically contributed to improved relations between Havana and Buenos Aires. He added that "a delegation from that country visited us recently to discuss trade matters, with satisfactory results." He stressed that "the change in Argentina marks a turnaround in the Latin American political situation, particularly in South America. I could reaffirm my opinion that military rightist dictatorships are in crisis."

"This was demonstrated in Argentina, but it can also be seen in the evolution of events in Uruguay, Chile, and Brazil," Fidel Castro concluded.

DELEGATES AT IPU COMMENT ON CURRENT PROBLEMS

Population, Development Cited

PA061835 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Cuba has stated in Geneva that any type of international cooperation in matters of population must first of all be directed toward generalizing and consolidating the struggle for peace. Luis Mendez Morejon, Cuban delegate to the 71st meeting of the Interparliamentary Union being held in Geneva, pointed out the dramatic problems in matters of population and development. He added that this situation affects mostly the underdeveloped nations that are experiencing the disastrous effects of the world's economic crisis and unbelievable foreign debts.

The Cuban delegate blamed the United States for the problems that are currently affecting humankind. He said that the U.S. policy of aggression and coercion worsens the situation around the world.

During his speech Mendez Morejon also explained Cuba's advances in population matters and gave as an example the success in the areas of health and education and the participation of women in the country's economic, political, and social life.

U.S. Missile Deployment Blamed

FL071600 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Text] Cuba has stressed that the present grave international situation is the direct consequence of the deployment of new U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe. Th position was enunciated by Jorge Lezcano Perez, chief of the Cuban delegation to the 71st meeting of the Interparliamentary Union meeting in Geneva, Switzerland.

The vice president of the National Assembly of the People's Government of Cuba also stressed the fact that the worldwide capitalist economic crisis has continued to worsen causing the foreign debt of developing countries to reach astronomical levels.

After referring to the warlike posture of the Reagan administration, Lezcano Perez denounced the increasingly open U.S. support of Nicarguan counterrevolutionaries, stating that Central America has become a conflict of incalculable magnitude due to Washington's continuous intervention.

CABRISAS INDICATES REASONS FOR ECONOMIC CRISIS

FL061222 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Cuba's Minister of Foreign Trade Ricardo Cabrisas has said at the 20th ECLA conference in Lima that the basis of Latin America's socioeconomic crisis is found in the unequal international relationship imposed by the developed capitalist nations.

He also criticized the adjustment policies imposed on the majority of this region's countries by the IMF. The Cuban minister said that these policies have brought about a higher deficit in the Latin American nations' balance of payments, a decrease in these countries exports, higher consumer goods prices, an increase in foreign debt, and a general worsening of the situation. Cabrisas indicated that a new international economic order was a necessity and that Latin American nations must show an increased desire for mutual defense.

ECLA's 20th meeting at the ministerial level will conclude today.

BASIC INDUSTRY MINISTER ARRIVES IN PRAGUE

FL061812 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Prague -- Cuban Minister of Basic Industry Marcos Portal Leon has arrived in the Czechoslovak capital on a working visit at the invitation of Czechoslovak Minister of Fuels and Power Vlastimil Ehrenberger. During his 5-day stay, Portal will deal with issues of cooperation between the two countries in the field of energy.

AMADEO BLANCO IN LONDON ON NEW SUGAR AGREEMENT

FL070155 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Text] Cuban Vice Foreign Trade Minister Amadeo Blanco stated in London that the nearly 2-week meeting held there by sugar exporter-importer countries, which concluded this week, has made it possible for the participants to examine important aspects of the regulating system of the next sugar agreement.

The Cuban representative told PRENSA LATINA that in addition, the meeting provided the opportunity to main exporter countries to voice their expectations in regard to the new sugar agreement.

Minister Amadeo Blanco stressed that the participants in the next sugar conference scheduled for July must make their best effort in finalizing the new sugar agreement. The agreement in force will be void by the end of the year and if it is not replaced with a satisfactory one the developing sugar-producing countries will be the most hurt.

MONTANE ON ICAP'S WORK WITH SOVIET ORGANIZATIONS

FL061415 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Jesus Montane, alternate Politburo member, has described as satisfactory the work of the Cuban Institute of Friendship with Peoples [ICAP] in 1983. Montane, in summarizing the ICAP's work during the year, said that this organization's advances were evident in practically all areas.

Montane added that the strengthening of fraternal ties with the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries [SOD] and the Soviet-Cuban Friendship Society [Soviet organizations] was emphasized in the ICAP's work.

ECONOMIC AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH WESTERN SAHARA

FL061530 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] (Mohamed Abdel Assid), president of Western Sahara, has received Manuel Torres, vice president of Cuba's State Committee for Economic Cooperation [CECE]. The members of the Cuban delegation who, with Torres, participated in the first session of the Cuban-Western Sahara Intergovernment Conference on Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation were also present.

The meeting took place in the liberated area of Western Sahara's territory and ended Thursday. An intergovernmental cooperation agreement was signed as well as a protocol, which the various interested parties will require for the 1984-85 period.

COMMUNIQUE REPORTS ON CURRENT GUINEA SITUATION

PA060823 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] In a communique broadcast over Radio Conakry the Military Committee for National Redress, CMRN, which took power Tuesday in Guinea, has authorized the resumption of work, and the circulation of vehicles throughout the entire country. The document stated that telephone service has been reestablished, but airports and borders will remain closed until an announcement to the contrary is issued. Meanwhile, the state of seige between 2200 and 0600 hours will be maintained.

The Guinea radio station also issued the complete list of CMRN members, headed by Colonel Lansana Conte and made up of 18 Armed Forces officers.

Previously the new Guinea Government had signed a communique stating that the action taken responded to the need to face the struggle for the succession of the late Ahmed Sekou Toure. The communique also urged the previous authorities to report to a military garrison.

Recovery Program Announced

PA060549 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Radio Conakry has announced that the Guinea Military Committee for National Redress [CMRN] has announced a 10-point recovery program, covering such topics as national reconciliation and the struggle for respect for human rights, particularly freedom of speech and of movement. The program encompasses the organization of an educational system for all citizens, as well as plans for the country's economic recovery. It also expresses Guinea's support for national liberation movements in Africa, the Middle East, and the rest of the world, and the Conakry government's adherence to the guiding principles of the OAU, the United Nations, and the Nonaligned Movement.

CONTADORA GROUP COMMISSIONS MEETING ENDS

FL071714 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Text] The meeting in Panama of Contadora Group technical and special work commissions related to the Central American situation has ended with a brief communique issued by the Panamanian Ministry of Foreign Relations.

The document states that the reports studied during the meeting make it possible to announce the successful completion of the plan established in advance to draw up by 30 April formulas that offer viable solutions to the foreign ministers of the Contadora Group nations. It also states that the technical group and the commissions will meet again during the week of 23-29 April to continue working together to achieve the objective of regional peace.

Speaking in Caracas, Mexican Secretary of Foreign Relations Bernardo Sepulveda has stated that a meeting of the Contadora Group foreign relations ministers will take place in Panama City tomorrow, Sunday. Sepulveda stated that this meeting is necessary because of the changing circumstances in Central America.

SALVADORAN FMLN-FDR REPRESENTATIVE ON ELECTIONS

PA060548 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Carlos Calles, representative in Colombia of the Salvadoran FDR and FMLN, has said that the elections held in his country on 25 March will not resolve the armed conflict and were only held to create the necessary environment for a direct U.S. military intervention. Calles was one of the last speakers at the Congress of Latin American Unity that ends today in Medellin, Colombia.

REBEL ACTIONS, OTHER EVENTS NOTED IN EL SALVADOR

PA042257 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] Radio Venceremos has reported that FMLN guerrilla columns have encircled an Army paratrooper battalion near Ciudad Barrios in the Salvadoran Department of San Miguel. The source added that 700 paratroopers are under siege by the rebels, who have forced the Army troops to take refuge in the area close by the city after successive armed confrontations. So far the insurgents have inflicted over 50 casualities on the enemy.

In statements to the Nicaraguan paper EL NUEVO DIARIO, (Juan Bosco), Central American representative of the Salvadoran Human Rights Commission, said that the Salvadoran Government forces commit between 40 and 60 murders a day.

Meanwhile, a Honduran Army officer who was captured by Salvadoran guerrillas admitted that he had carried out counterinsurgency tasks in several Central American countries on instructions from the CIA. The officer, Ramon Maldonado, said that he had personally participated in operations to eliminate Honduran leftist leaders.

Meanwhile, in Mexico City, Hector Oqueli, a member of the political diplomatic commission of the Salvadoran FDR and FMLN, said that his country is a key element in the attempts to bring peace to Central America. He said that the Latin American tour presently being carried out by Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid will reinforce the negotiating spirit of the Contadora Group.

GUATEMALA STUDIES PARTICIPATION IN 'GRENADIER I'

PA060431 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] The Guatemalan Army High Command is conducting a technical study for possible participation in the Grenadier I maneuvers in Honduras. The Guatemalan Information Service [Servicio de Informacion de Guatemala] has revealed in Mexico City that the study is taking place after the visit to that Central American country by U.S. roving ambassador Harry Shlaudeman. After meeting with Shlaudeman, General Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores, the head of the Guatemalan regime, said he would like to hold a dialogue with U.S. President Ronald Reagan and with the Central American chiefs of state.

HONDURAS' ALVAREZ DENIES RESIGNING; GORMAN VISITS

PA060532 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] General Paul Gorman, chief of the U.S. Southern Command Headquarters in Panama, today started an official visit to Honduras. It was reported in Tegucigalpa that Gen Gorman will meet with Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova, who is currently commanding general of the Honduran Armed Forces following the recent dismissal of General Gustavo Alvarez Martinez. Alvarez is in Costa Rica after that government granted him temporary asylum.

During a press conference offered yesterday in the Costa Rican capital, General Gustav Alvarez denied that he had tendered his resignation to the post, as asserted by the Honduran Government. The former chief of the Honduran Armed Forces refused to refer to his country's internal political situation and constantly evaded the questions about missing people and the murder of civilians.

Reports from Tegucigalpa stated that Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova met with the Armed Forces Supreme Council at the capital, while rumors insisted that General Walter Lopez will be appointed chief of the Armed Forces.

Other news reports say that several officers close to Alvarez -- including Colonel Juan Lopez Grijalva, the former chief of military intelligence -- are under house arrest.

Alvarez Leaves for Miami

PA060328 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] General Gustavo Alvarez Martinez, the ousted chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, today left for Miami, according to Costa Rican authorities. A spokesman for the Public Security Ministry in San Jose said that Alvarez had left the country by his own decision, after several charges filed against him by relatives of Costa Ricans missing in Honduras were dismissed.

Lopez Appointed New Chief

PA060553 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Excerpts] General Walter Lopez, commander of the Honduran Air Force, has been appointed by the Congress to be the new chief of the Honduran Armed Forces to replace General Gustavo Alvarez, who was arrested and expelled to Costa Rica on Saturday after being forced to sign a letter of resignation.

In Mexico City, the Lorenzo Zelaya People's Revolutionary Forces of Honduras have stated that nothing has changed in their country with the removal of Gen Gustavo Alvarez and other high-ranking officers. The revolutionary organization said that once thousands of U.S. Marines and military bases had been established in Honduras, Gen Alvarez was no longer necessary to the United States, but was rather an encumbrance because of his excessive ambition and his poor international image.

In Caracas it was officially announced today that the Venezuelan Government has decided to grant the residence visa requested by Gen Gustavo Alvarez.

Appointment Confirmed

FL051815 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Under strict security, the Honduran Congress has confirmed the appointment of Brigadier General Walter Lopez as new chief of the Honduran Armed Forces. The appointment of Walter Lopez, who is 43 years old and a former student of U.S. and Panamanian military schools, came as no surprise to analysts who had predicted it on the basis of Lopez' prominent role in the power struggle which culminated in his predecessor's, Brigadier General Gustavo Alvarez, fall from power.

Communists Comment

PA050244 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Report by Nestor Nunez, Radio Havana special correspondent in Managua, Nicaragua -- recorded]

[Text] A statement issued by the Communist Party of Honduras [PCH] that was released here a few moments ago states that defense of national sovereignty is only possible through the elimination of the U.S. military bases that have been imposed on the country, an end to support for the bands of former Somozist guardsmen who are based in Honduran territory, and an end to the repression and murder of popular leaders. The statement indicates that General Gustavo Alvarez Martinez, who has just resigned, not only promoted the subjugation of civilian government by the military, but also violated civil rights and orchestrated a ferocious persecution of progressive thinkers. The PCH statement says that Alvarez' name is associated with the kidnapping and disappearance of popular leaders as well as the creation of clandestine cemeteries. Alvarez Martinez, the declaration adds, is also associated with the servile foreign policy practiced by the Honduran Government that has converted the country into a base for Yankee operations against Nicaragua and the Salvadoran liberation movement.

The PCH maintains that the official message delivered by President Roberto Suazo Cordova on Alvarez Martinez' resignation mentioned consolidation of democracy and reaffirmed the neutral, nonbelligerent [as heard] political posture that should be maintained by the Armed Forces. However, the PCH statement added, this will be possible only if Honduras ceases to be a U.S. military base and if there is a clarification of the status of dozens of patriots who have been kidnapped and whose whereabouts are unknown to date. We hail, the PCH statement adds, the honest and patriotic attitude of the officers, NCO's and enlisted men who identify with the people's highest aspirations, but it should be clear that only the mobilization of the people can prevent the worthy intentions that the government claims to pursue from being contravened by ultrarightist sectors crouching in the shadows of government whose intentions are no different from those of Gustavo Alvarez Martinez. We will be able to restore the validity of the Constitution, the PCH statement notes in closing, only if we eliminate the clandestine jails and the death squads, if political prisoners are freed, and if the U.S. troops and bands of former Somozist guardsmen are expelled from the country.

NEW YORK TIMES CITED ON U.S. PLANS IN HONDURAS

PA061855 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Colonel Cesar Elvir Sierra, spokesman for the Honduran Armed Forces, has told THE NEW YORK TIMES that the United States is planning further maneuvers in Honduras once the so-called Grenadier I maneuvers have ended in June. An analysis published by the U.S. newspaper says that the U.S. strategists hope that the frequent maneuvers in Honduras, together with the increase in the counterrevolutionary activity, will force the Sandinists to fight their enemies on their own territory. The newspaper adds that Washington will increase its military activities in Central America from now until the U.S. elections in November in an attempt to prevent a victory of the Salvadoran revolutionary forces and to save President Reagan a problem while seeking reelection. THE NEW YORK TIMES stresses that the military maneuvers in Honduras and the increase in the activities of the anti-Sandinist bands will also be used by the United States to create tensions that will hamper the 4 November elections in Nicaragua.

HONDURANS MARCH TO DEMAND U.S. TROOP WITHDRAWAL

FL061532 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] A demonstration staged by various popular sectors of Honduras has demanded the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Honduras and the cessation of repression, in addition to other demands. The march, organized by the United Workers Federation [Federacion Unitaria de Trabajadores], the General Central Organization of Workers, professional colleges, and students' organizations traversed the main streets of Tegucigalpa. One of the posters carried by the marchers said: Because of our dignity and respect for national sovereignty, we demand that the government of Roberto Suazo Cordova have the U.S. forces that are occupying the country withdrawn from our soil.

The Honduran demonstrators also asked for the dismantling of the U.S. regional military base in that Central American country, in which U.S. experts train Salvadoran soldiers. Another demand was for greater freedom, cessation of repression, rebirth of the labor movement, and greater democracy.

NICARAGUA'S UN ENVOY CITED ON U.S. 'ATTACKS'

PA061955 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 5 Apr 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Excerpts] Recently the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary groups have noticeably stepped up their attacks of all kinds on the new Nicaragua. The increase in these military activities would be unthinkable without the unlimited economic and military assistance that the United States provides to the anti-Sandinists, whose bases of operations are mostly in Honduras.

These actions were recently reported to the UN Security Council, which held a meeting at the request of the Nicaraguan Government. On this occasion, Nicaragua reported the escalation of the attacks encouraged by the United States and demanded that immediate steps be taken to stop the war that Washington is promoting in Central America.

Nicaraguan Ambassador Javier Chamorro complained that even though the efforts of the international community and the Contadora Group have helped to avoid a conflict of major proportions, they have not been enough to avert the danger of war in the area. Chamorro stressed that in view of the gravity of the attacks on his country, it is necessary to eliminate as soon as possible the causes of conflict, which are basically the warlike, imperious attitude of the U.S. Government and the thousands of Somozist mercenaries based in Honduras. Finally, Chamorro urged the United States to contemplate its mistakes and, after serious reflection, avoid leading the world toward a holocaust of unpredictable consequences.

BRIEFS

SPACE RECOVERY ACCORD SIGNED -- The Cuban Government has formally agreed with the USSR that it will adhere to a treaty on the recovery and return of cosmonauts and space objects. Moscow today reported that the official ceremony was held there yesterday. The treaty is dated 22 April 1968. [Text] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 4 Apr 84 FL]